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Pressure on Kent Police to hold leaks inquiry

By Steve Knight
steve.knight@archant.co.uk

THE Kent Police watchdog has been asked to review the force's biggest cases to ensure officers were not paid for leaking information to the tabloid press.

The request by the county branch of the Labour Party is in response to allegations made last week that the News of the World made illegal payments to serving Metropolitan Police officers.

In a letter to Kent Police Authority chairwoman Ann Barnes, Kent Labour chairman Cllr David Green said it would be "naive" to assume only the Metropolitan Police had been targeted. He added the authority should review high-profile

cases the force has investigated in recent years, and that a "rigorous inquiry" should be held if it appears confidential information has been leaked to reporters or private investigators.

Cllr Green said: "The people of Kent need to be reassured that their police force is above suspicion, because that's what encourages us to trust our officers and share information with them.

"I'm not making any allegations, but it's obvious to everyone that there is a problem generally with News of the World reporters having paid for information from police officers and we need to be sure that hasn't happened in Kent."

Cllr Green's request was made

Continued on page 2



Picture: ADY KERRY

RORY MANIA SWEEPS THROUGH SANDWICH AS OPEN RETURNS

STAR: A tense final day is in store as the likes of Rory McIlroy bid to be crowned champion **SEE SPORT**

CUTS

Youth centres face the chop

YOUTH centres across Kent could close as the county council looks to save £1 million.

A further 27 youth projects also face a bleak future of potential funding cuts.

Officials at County Hall hope voluntary organisations will take over youth clubs.

PAGE 5

SOUTHERN CROSS

Anxious wait on care homes

KENT County Council has said it could step in with financial help to ensure Southern Cross care homes for the elderly remain open.

The company, which runs 10 care homes in Kent with 593 beds, said it was closing the business after months of financial difficulties. **PAGE 13**

SPORT

Gills complete Birchall move

STRIKER Adam Birchall talks about his decision to turn down Swindon and AFC Wimbledon in favour of joining Gillingham.

The former Dover frontman signed a three-year deal at Priestfield this week after the Whites accepted an improved bid for his signature from their Kent rivals. **PAGE 79**

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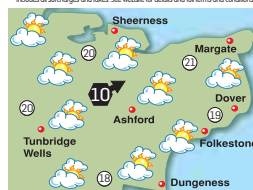
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TODAY'S HIGH TIDE (Metres)

Dover	06.50	5.8	19.21	5.9
Margate	07.51	4.2	20.09	4.3
St Mary's	00.11	4.8	12.52	4.7

WEEK AHEAD

Monday	Max 22C	Min 10C
Tuesday	Max 21C	Min 11C
Wednesday	Max 20C	Min 10C
Thursday	Max 21C	Min 11C
Friday	Max 21C	Min 12C
Saturday	Max 20C	Min 12C

Information supplied by **MeteoGroup**

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HACKING SCANDAL

Cameron must protect us from the newspaper hackers, says 7/7 victim

By Marijke Cox

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A LONDON bombing survivor is demanding that David Cameron authorise the release of evidence about her case to protect it from hackers.

Beverli Rhodes, who was badly injured in the blast on the tube near Kings Cross Station in the 7/7 attacks, said records of phone calls and messages between the victims and lawyers included highly personal details of injuries.

The 50-year-old mother-of-four, from Kennington in Ashford, said she was writing an open letter to the Prime Minister and Mayor of London Boris Johnson urging them to ensure any records held are either destroyed or given to victims.

"This information is extremely personal; it deals with discussions about levels of injuries and claims in relation to severity and how much an injury was worth," she said.

"We had to work out which pieces of our bodies we wanted to claim for. We're terrified this information could get out into the public domain."

Ms Rhodes, who launched the Survivors Coalition Foundation following the London bombings where she suffered injuries to her chest, leg and face, said in 2007 she suspected phone messages were being hacked into and that some conversations between victims and lawyers were being taped.

The former security consultant who specialised in counter-terrorism, said phone calls often had a "strange" sound in the background, which she recognised as recording.

"This information was incredibly personal, and emo-

Continued from front page

public just hours after Prime Minister David Cameron announced a public inquiry into the phone-hacking scandal at the News of the World.

The public anger surrounding the issue has also forced the paper's parent company News Corporation to withdraw its bid for full ownership of BSkyB.

According to emails handed to the Met last month, a "small number" of officers – believed to be fewer than five – were allegedly paid by the newspaper between 2003 and 2007.

Dover Tory MP Charlie Elphicke said the public inquiry needed to investigate the conduct of officers at all police forces, including Kent.

"We need to know if there is a dark culture of corruption with police selling information," he said. "We need a fit and proper police force across the country, and people need to know things are done properly. But we also need to ensure the reputations of upstanding officers are not dragged through the gutter."

"Trust in the police is the most critical

thing. Most people who read the News of the World treated it like a comic and didn't really trust many of the stories, but the police are there to do a serious job and people expect them to act seriously and within the law."

The role of the Kent Police Authority is to appoint the chief constable and hold the force to account.

Kent Police Federation chairman Ian Pointon said he did not agree the KPA should review cases without any evidence of wrongdoing.

He added: "At a time when resources are dwindling the last thing we need to do is look into something unnecessarily."

"We ought to wait and see how the public inquiry and the Met Police investigation go before we start investigating things just for the sake of it."

"Let's keep these allegations in perspective and not tarnish the good reputations of the vast majority."

Last week it was revealed that in the past three years Kent Police has fired 10 officers and civilians – the most in the country – for breaches of the Data Protection Act. There are no allegations

the breaches were related to the current newspaper scandal.

In response to the News of the World allegations, KPA chairwoman Ann Barnes said the authority had a number of policies in place to root out officers who act inappropriately.

She added: "The authority has a zero-tolerance policy on this type of behaviour. Our professional standards committee monitors how the force handles complaints, and we regularly dip test to ensure complaints are dealt with."

"We are aware of what has happened nationally and we will do all we can to ensure this is not something that is repeated here in Kent."

Kent Police declined to comment. Meanwhile, Rochester and Strood Tory MP Mark Reckless has written to the Prime Minister asking him to invite Kent's former chief constable Mike Fuller to join the panel assisting the judicial inquiry. Mr Fuller is now chief inspector of the Crown Prosecution Service and Mr Reckless feels his police background puts him in a unique position to aid the investigation.



WORRIED: Beverli Rhodes

tional issues were dealt with. It's the kind of thing the News of the World would have liked to have got hold of."

The Metropolitan Police has contacted 170 victims of phone hacking out of the suspected 4,000 victims.

Although Ms Rhodes said she had not been contacted by police, she strongly suspected she was a hacking victim.

She said the lack of trust victims now felt meant when contacting each other by text or voicemail, they used codes, adding: "If there are records of conversations being held they must be released to us. If they

don't release it then we want to know it has been destroyed."

"I am writing to the Prime Minister and his deputy demanding this happen."

"This has been an invasion of privacy and all we ask is we get some privacy back and records stay out of the public domain."

Ms Rhodes, who suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder, admitted the phone hacking scandal had made her wary in everyday life, for example, not answering the front door to people she did not recognise.

Last week, it emerged that relatives of victims of the bombings had been contacted by

Scotland Yard warning them messages on their mobiles may have been intercepted by Glenn Mulcaire, a private investigator employed by the News of the World.

It followed the shocking revelation that Mulcaire had hacked into voicemail messages of murdered Milly Dowler.

Relationships between police and journalists have also come under the spotlight after emails emerged of alleged payments to officers by the paper, which ran its last ever edition on Sunday in the wake of the scandal.

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WOMEN'S FOOTBALL



MP battles for her goal of women's World Cup games on terrestrial TV

By Steve Knight

steve.knight@archant.co.uk

FOOTBALL loving MP Tracey Crouch says she will push for all future women's World Cup games to be aired live on terrestrial television.

The Tory representative for Chatham and Aylesford successfully persuaded the BBC to screen England's quarter-final defeat to France last Saturday, with the game originally due to be shown only via the red button.

And Ms Crouch, who coaches her own girls' football team, told KoS she hopes to continue the trend at the 2015 World Cup in Canada.

"I just felt it was really important for the future of the game and the growth of the game to get the match on normal telly," she said.

"The number of people who watched it (a peak audience of 3.2 million) shows there are people out there who want to watch women's football.

"I think all the games should have been

shown, and in four years' time I will be raising that with the terrestrial broadcasters.

"There's a lot of enjoyment to be had from watching the other nations compete, especially teams like Brazil who are amazingly talented and who young girls can take inspiration from.

"Women's football will not be as big in England as it is in places like Germany and the USA until it is given proper television and newspaper coverage. It's the responsibility of all media to help grow the sport."

The final of this year's World Cup takes place in Frankfurt, Germany, on Sunday, with twice-winners USA taking on Japan.

The game kicks off at 7.30pm and will be shown on the digital channel BBC Three.

Despite the backing of millions more viewers on BBC Two, England crashed out of their quarter-final on penalties after a 1-1 draw with the French.

Following the loss, coach Hope Powell criticised the "cowardice" of some of her players for



TARGET WOMEN:

MP Tracey Crouch got the BBC to show England women play France in the World Cup quarter-finals last weekend

failing to volunteer to take a spot-kick.

Ms Crouch, who coaches the Meridian Girls under-13s team in the Kent Girls/Ladies Football League, could understand their reluctance.

"I think Hope Powell's comments were just one of those things said after the event in a whirl of mixed emotions, and were probably not meant in the way they were taken," she added.

"My own girls' team lost on penalties in a recent cup semi-final, and it's an incredibly cruel way to go. But taking a penalty is a very scary thing to do, and I think you will find that players are reluctant to take one across the board."

■ See www.yourmedway.co.uk for all the latest news and sports headlines.

NEWS IN BRIEF

➔ Cheetah bites keepers

TWO members of staff at a wild animal park have been attacked by a cheetah.

The keepers at Eagle Heights in Eynsford, near Dartford, were scratched and bitten after entering the enclosure to film one-year-old big cat Lena. They managed to escape by spraying the animal with a fire extinguisher.

The incident, which happened in front of visitors at the park, was described as by staff "out of character" for the big cat.

➔ Police brass reshuffle

CHANGES are being made to top posts at Kent Police as part of the major shake-up within the county's force.

Some of the existing area commanders will be shifted to new roles within the organisation while others will head up the three new policing divisions, East, West, and North and Medway, which will replace the current six divisions.

The new model will be brought into action on November 16.

➔ Nurse hunt abandoned

POLICE in Germany have closed the case on a missing nurse who disappeared 10 years ago.

Louise Kerton, from Broadstairs, was last seen at Aachen station in Germany on July 30, 2001, where she was about to catch a train to Belgium before returning to the UK.

The 24-year-old has not been seen since and relatives have admitted they believe she is dead.

Investigations were conducted in the UK and Germany into her whereabouts.

Kent Police officers will continue to review the case.

CRIME

Mastermind behind £2 million cannabis farms used teenage Vietnamese boys to grow dope

DRUG baron John Read is facing a lengthy prison sentence after being found guilty of heading a multi-million pound cannabis gang.

The 54-year-old, of Marine Parade, Whitstable, was arrested after police raided three industrial-sized cannabis factories in Kent in 2009 and 2010. Drugs with a street value of more than £2 million were seized from the units.

Read, who also ran a printing company and an art gallery in Tankerton, was found guilty of three counts of conspiring to produce cannabis and three counts of attempting to pervert the course of justice, after a five-week trial at Canterbury Crown Court. He has been remanded in custody until sentencing.

Co-defendant Roger Coombs, 70, of Crawley, Sussex, was also found guilty of attempting to pervert the course of justice.

Outside court Det Con Dave Godden, from the Serious and Organised Crime Unit said: "The potential monetary gain that Coombs and Read believed they were set to receive from these factories was substantial. Their so-called business employed young, Vietnamese boys as gardeners – one as young as 13 years old.

"These boys lived in squalid conditions within the factories, where electrical fires would have been a constant risk to their lives."

The first cannabis factory was discovered at Higher Shelvin Farm, Wootton, near Dover, on August 5, 2009.



HAUL: John Read's drug farms were worth £2m

The barn's interior had been sub-divided into 10 rooms. 'Farmers' had been living on-site in a small caravan. More than 1,400 cannabis plants with a potential street value of more than £1m were found in nine rooms.

Eight months later, on April 15, 2010, police executed a search warrant at three adjoining industrial units in Coombe Valley Road, Dover.

Officers found more than 3,000 cannabis plants, worth £1m, and high-powered hanging light units with power packs. Two Vietnamese 'gardeners' were arrested within the units.

Six weeks later, on May 27, 2010, officers executed a warrant at a large industrial unit on the Joseph Wilson Industrial Estate, Whitstable. A total of 966 growing plants were seized.

Two Vietnamese boys – 13 and 17 – were arrested and later pleaded guilty to producing cannabis. Read will be sentenced in August.

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VILLAGE

YOUTH CENTRES

Young people feel the force of £1m in cuts

By Steve Knight

steve.knight@archant.co.uk

YOUTH centres could be closed throughout Kent as part of county council plans to save more than £1 million over two years.

County Hall is proposing a major restructure of its youth service which could also result in the end of funding for 27 other projects.

The council wants voluntary groups and charities to take over the running of many of its services, which are available to 131,000 young people aged 13-19.

The restructure could result in Kent having just one 'hub' youth centre in each of the 12 district council areas, with those no longer required or not taken over by other providers being sold.

Kent Youth County Council member Dara Farrell, 18, regularly attends XC Youth Centre – also known as Christchurch

– in Ashford, which is one of those at risk.

He said: "If it wasn't for the youth centre then I would never have met so many politicians and got on the Youth County Council. Some of the people I used to hang around with have done prison sentences already, so there's a possibility I could have gone the same way."

"If Christchurch closes then are we all going to walk to the other side of Ashford to get to the hub centre? Probably not, meaning there won't really be any youth provision for the majority of young people."

"It's also worrying that KCC expects the voluntary sector to pick up where they leave off."

"A lot of the good work volunteer groups do is heavily supported by Kent Youth Service staff and based in Kent Youth Service centres, so I'm not sure they'll be able to cope if that support disappears."

In a report setting out its plans, KCC says that instead of

the authority running all youth services in-house, each district area should have a 'core offer' consisting of a hub, one street-based project, and one or more school-based youth workers.

Jobs are also expected to go as a result of the shake-up, with 64 staff facing redundancy and a further 60 who work on specific projects also under threat.

"Youth services are the easiest to cut because most young people can't vote, and those who can often don't," said Dara. "The majority of councillors would never have set foot in a youth centre when they were my age; they can't relate to young people."

The planned restructure is due to be discussed by cabinet members on Monday, July 18.



CHANGES:

The cuts would mean each area would have a 'youth hub', with the hope being that volunteer groups will take over the running of many youth services

A public consultation will begin on August 1 and run until the end of October.

Cabinet member for customers and communities, Cllr Mike Hill, said: "These proposals are intended to transform the way we deliver services to young people so that we can continue to provide a first class service despite the severe financial pressures we all face."

Meanwhile, Kent Green Party has launched an online petition against what it calls the "ideological idiocy" of the youth cuts. See the website alturl.com/d8wuj to find out more details about the campaign.

NEWS IN BRIEF

➔ Murder appeal anger

THE brother of a woman murdered by her husband says he is "disgusted" at the killer's decision to appeal his conviction.

Malcolm Webster, 52, from Surrey, was jailed for a minimum of 30 years earlier this month for murdering Claire Morris, originally from Upchurch, near Rainham, in Aberdeenshire in 1994.

Ms Morris' brother Peter said he was "disgusted" after learning through Webster's solicitor that the killer was due to appeal.

➔ 130-mile coastal trek

A MAN from Kent has walked 130 miles along the county's coastline over seven days, visiting all nine of the county's lifeboat stations, to raise funds for the RNLI.

Michael Webster, 52, from Sandgate, set out from Gravesend lifeboat station, finishing on the shingle beach of Dungeness.

He has raised £1,550 for the RNLI. Anyone wishing to donate can visit virginmoneygiving.com/awalkinthegarden.org.uk

➔ Free community trees

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CUTS

Spending almost £5m over budget in bid to fix child services failings

SIGNIFICANT financial pressures involving a predicted £5 million overspend at County Hall have been revealed in the first report since a shake-up of the council top brass.

In a document due for discussion by cabinet on Monday, July 18, pressures which could unbalance the authority's bank balance for 2011-12 were identified, with the much-needed improvement of children's services being the main cause of the overspend.

The budget forecasts showed that although the £95m savings required in 2011-12 as part of spending cuts at Kent County Council were "on track", there was a risk of a £4.9m overspend.

Cabinet member for finance and business support, Cllr John Simmonds, one of the authors of the report, said work was being undertaken to reduce the this for the next quarter.

Cllr Simmonds and acting corporate director of finance and procurement, Andy Wood, said in the report it was not unusual to have a forecast overspend of that size at this stage



REPORT: Cllr John Simmonds

of the year: "In the context of a savings requirement of £95m, increasing demands for services, and the need to deliver the Children's Services Improvement Plan, the ask to deliver a balanced budget is severe."

"Every effort will be made to balance the budget and avoid any overspend at year end."

Earlier this year, a shake-up at County Hall as part of the savings plan saw services split

between five new directorates: education, learning and skills; families and social care; enterprise and environment; customer and communities; and business strategy and support, in a bid to create a "leaner and fitter" authority.

But despite moves to save money, a damning Ofsted report which saw KCC rated "inadequate" for its safeguarding and looked-after-children services and weeks later the whole of the former children, families and education department – now families and social care – rated "poor", meant added financial pressure.

The launch of the Children's Services Improvement Plan, and other measures, has resulted in a predicted overspend of £10m in the families and social care directorate.

However, taking into account a £2.1m under-spend at KCC in 2010-11, this figure has been reduced to £7.9m.

Other directorates have remained within their budgets or made savings which resulted in the total overspend prediction of £4.9m for 2011-12.



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EDUCATION

Almost a fifth of primaries offer no male role model to our youngsters

By **Marijke Cox**

marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

MORE than 100 primary schools in Kent do not have a single male teacher.

Shocking figures from the Department of Education revealed that nationally only 15 per cent of teachers in nurseries, primaries and preparatory schools are men.

In Kent, 104 primary schools out of around 480 have no male teachers, sparking fears that some children, particularly those from single-parent families living with their mothers, are having little contact with male role models before they reach secondary school.

Experts from the Campaign for Real Education said young boys especially needed role models and should have at least two male teachers.

Kent County Council cabinet member for education, learning and skills, Cllr Sarah Hohler, said for some years there had been a drive to attract more men into the teaching profession.

The authority runs taster courses with part of the remit encouraging more men into primary teaching.

"The matter is subjective," said Cllr Hohler. "On one side there is the view that children who do not have a male role model in their lives could benefit from a male teacher.

"On the other hand, others argue that teachers should be employed on merit and not gender,



EARLY LEARNING: Boys living in single parent families with their mothers who have no men teachers in primary school are missing out on the experience of male role models

and that it is for families to provide fit and proper male role models.

"There are, and will always be, arguments on both sides but the key factor must be an individual's ability to do the job.

"We encourage talented people to become teachers and then appoint the one best suited to the job, irrespective of gender.

"It is important for young children to have

good role models and this includes male teachers as well as female ones."

Department for Education figures for 2010-11 also revealed that in the South East the majority of male primary school teachers were aged between 55 and 59. Only 17 were under 24 years old and 100 between 25 and 29.

Kent secretary of the National Teachers Union (NUT), John Walder, said historically there had always been more women in primary teaching.

"There are a number of reasons for this; the fact that teaching is not a well paid profession where a large number of men, who may be the breadwinners, opt to do something else; the convenience for women who are parents and have the holidays to look after their children; and there's also the fact that teaching young children appeals to women more than men."

However, Mr Walder said the impact of the recession could spark a change in this figure.

"In the past when there have been economic problems, there tended to be an increase.

"If you look at what's happened at Pfizer this could happen. I have seen several people at Canterbury Christ Church looking at teaching who are microbiologists at Pfizer."

Mr Walder added that where there were men in primary schools, they were most often the headteacher.

"A lot of that is actually down to a lack of ambition in some women – a lack of determination to rise up the ladder."

POLICE

Sex crime on the rise but overall figures reduced

KENT has seen a rise in the number of sex offences, while violent crime dropped to its lowest level in four years, according to new Home Office figures.

The latest statistics for 2010-11 showed recorded crime in Kent and Medway had reduced by more than a quarter since 2007 – around 40,000 less offences.

But while violent crime was down 5.3 per cent year on year – 1,255 less offences – and crimes involving knives and firearms was down by 10 per cent and 28 per cent respectively, sex offences were on the up.

While Kent saw a 2.3 per cent rise in sex crimes (31 offences) and 0.2 per cent rise (two offences) in serious sex cases, Medway experienced a worrying 15.2 per cent (25 offences) increase in serious sex crimes.

Kent Police, however, said many of those were historical from victims too afraid to have come forward before now.

Fraud and forgery offences also increased, with a 3.3 per cent rise (131 crimes), which was attributed to officers detecting more of that type of crime which led to further offences being discovered.

Assistant Chief Constable Paul Brandon said he was pleased to see a continuing fall in overall crime.

"The risk of becoming a victim of crime in Kent is the lowest it's been for four years," he said. "However, we will not be complacent and will continue to work with our partner agencies to reduce crime and the impact of crime.

"We will be carrying out a series of initiatives over the coming year to further reduce crimes that matter to our communities, such as the current burglary campaign.

"The increase in our neighbourhood officers, in line with the new policing model for Kent, will enable us to focus on offences such as burglary, theft and antisocial behaviour, all of which are deeply upsetting for the victims."



FIGURES: Recorded crime has dropped by 40,000 offences

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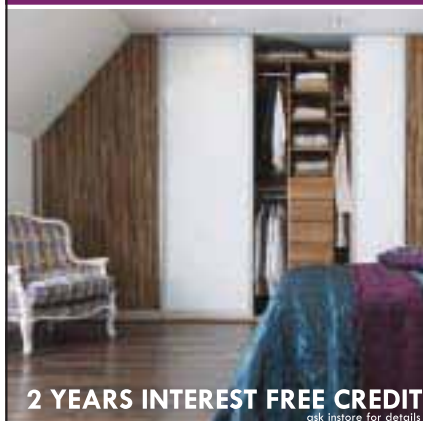
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EDUCATION

Tuition fees leave students thinking twice about a degree

By Mathew Beech

mathew.beech@archant.co.uk

ALL of Kent's four universities will be charging students £8,300 or more in tuition fees from 2012.

The University of Kent (UKC), Canterbury Christ Church University (CCCU), the University of Greenwich, and the University for the Creative Arts (UCA) have all had their tuition fees rates confirmed by the Government.

UKC will be charging its students the maximum £9,000 per year for degree courses, while CCCU and UCA will cost £8,500 each per year, and students at the University of Greenwich's Medway campus will face fees of £8,300.

The substantial increase from current levels of about £3,500 comes as government funding for higher education has been cut by 80 per cent.

Rory Weal, a student at Oakwood Park in Maidstone, says some of his friends are reconsidering their university plans as they face debts of more than £27,000 by the time they graduate.

The 16-year-old said: "It is such a huge figure it is difficult to comprehend and I am burying my head in the sand;



HIGH PRICE: Students in Kent are set to pay close to the £9,000 maximum

I'm hoping that with my qualification I can get a good job and pay it off.

"My friends and colleagues at school are really thinking about whether university is right for them and are reconsidering their options.

"It is encouraging the next generation to get into debt and that is not the right message to be sending out."

UCA students' union chair of trustees Benjo Taylor said: "UCA students' union is disappointed that fees have had to be set at such a high level to maintain the existing quality of education.

"The Coalition Government are attacking education and it's unacceptable

to risk the fate of both incredibly lucrative UK industry and the future of thousands of young people."

Cuts have left many universities facing a shortfall in revenue, which they have passed on to prospective students.

Professor Mark Hunt, deputy vice-chancellor of UCA, said: "Student fees will provide our main source of funding for teaching and investing in the facilities needed to provide students with a high quality creative arts education."

To be able to charge students fees of more than £6,000, all the institutions have to provide financial support to undergraduates from lower income backgrounds. With the bursaries and grants available, the average fees the prospective undergraduates can expect to pay in Kent are £7,751 at CCCU, £8,330 at UKC, £8,500 at UCA, and £7,649 at the University of Greenwich at Medway.

CCCU's vice-chancellor, Prof Robin Baker, said: "This fee, together with the range of financial support we'll make available, reflects out determination to ensure university education at CCCU remains accessible to those who will most benefit from it, particularly students from lower income backgrounds."

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FESTIVAL

10,000 reasons why Lounge on the Farm has officially made it

By Nick Ames

nick.ames@archant.co.uk

SEVEN years ago a flatbed truck with a band playing on the back drew a small crowd in the centre of Canterbury.

Among them was Sean Baker, who was watching with the son of a local farmer.

Ideas were exchanged and a telephone number hastily scrawled on a cigarette pack.

Two years later Merton Farm became a music venue when around 1,000 people turned up to see sets by the likes of Vincent Vincent and the Villains as Mr Baker made his idea a reality.

Last weekend the crowd was 10 times that number as Lounge on the Farm became a firm fixture in the festival calendar with headliners The Streets, Ellie Goulding, and Echo and the Bunnymen – who closed the event on Sunday.

Goulding, who is a former University of Kent drama student, told the crowd she was excited to be back in Canterbury. Her set on Saturday drew a young crowd – but not quite so pre-teen as that which greeted Katy B earlier in the day.

Showing the diversity of the festival – which

has as its official media partner Archant KOS Media – The Meadows stage featured Blur guitarist and Kent resident Graham Coxon.

Friday night had been a wet one with many festival goers thankful for their wellies as they watched The Streets produce one of the highlights of the festival with stand out numbers Fit But You Know It, and Facebook anthem OMG.

Singer Mike Skinner took the opportunity to praise the festival's food – especially the burritos – and removed the O from the letters spelling Lounge on the Farm" at the front of the stage.

"When Ellie Goulding gets on stage will you do something for me?" he asked. "When she says 'hello Lounge on the Farm' tell her it's 'lunge'."

Other highlights included local band Caravan, the steel guitar of Bob Log III, and the 1920s-style jazz-blues of CW Stoneking.

The cowshed saw DJs performing with Radio 1's Annie Mac's set a highlight on Friday. The cows themselves were moved.

Fans praised the music and the food, some of which had been produced on the farm itself.

■ See www.yourcanterbury.co.uk for all the latest news and sports headlines.



Pictures: PAUL JERRETT



ENTERTAINING: Clockwise from top left: Ellie Goulding, Graham Coxon and Katie B were among the acts performing at this year's festival



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THEATRE

The front row view from the new Marlowe

By Ed Hill

ed.hill@kosmedia.co.uk

A SNEAK preview tour of the new Marlowe Theatre in Canterbury took place this week.

The £25.6 million project is due for completion by September with the first gala opening performance on October 4.

The theatre boasts a 1,200 seat auditorium and includes a 150-seat studio theatre for smaller productions, as well as bars and a riverside restaurant.

Mark Everett the theatre's director said: "The sheer feel of the place is very exciting. Our first performance will be by the French Canadian troupe Cirque Eloize. It is the UK premier and the sort of show that we would never have been able to stage in the old theatre. The technical side of it just would not have been possible."

The building is designed by

architect Keith Williams and is on the site of the old Marlowe Theatre close to the River Stour. The old converted cinema was demolished to make way for a new dedicated theatre building, although the design retained the scenery flying tower of the old Marlowe.

The playhouse consists of two circles of seats and the ground-floor stalls. The circle bar will offer one of the best views of the cathedral in the city.

The main funding for the work is from Canterbury City Council, which contributed around £16m. Kent County Council gave £4m, with nearly £2m from the defunct South East England Development Agency. The rest has been raised from the private sector.

Construction by builder Jacksons is on time and in budget.

Mr Everett was also sure the new theatre would bring a

boost to the local economy.

He said: "We expect the theatre will generate around £22m per year. That includes theatregoers coming to Canterbury, actors and technicians staying locally and services ordered in for the theatre."

The Marlowe itself expects to turn over £10m a year.

Around 40 new permanent jobs will be created, with 130 part-time front-of-house staff.

He was also positive it would help nurture new local talent.

"Our youth theatre will be in the studio and we have plans to work with the schools and universities and older people. Of course the success of the operation depends on the main theatre. Our first priority is to get the theatre up and running."

■ See www.yourcanterbury.co.uk for news and sport.



Pictures: TM STUBBINGS

FUTURE: Left, Mark Everett in the main theatre; right, a member of staff enjoys the stunning view from the circle bar

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FESTIVAL

County show celebrates

By Nick Ames

nick.ames@archant.co.uk

'THIS Is Your County, Your Show' is the motto of the 82nd Kent County Show, which is taking place this weekend at Detling.

Last year some 85,000 people attended the three-day event showcasing the very best of the county's agricultural produce and highlighting innovations and breakthroughs in rural industry.

The celebration of country living is also the largest gathering of young farmers in the UK and where some of the country's finest livestock are exhibited.

"The Kent County Show is now placing agriculture at the forefront and it is my belief that this industry underpins the economy of Kent and therefore makes a valuable contribution both economically and socially to the county," said chairman George Jessel.

The event's patron, HRH The Duke of Kent, visited the show on Friday, arriving by helicopter, and was greeted by Lord



Lieutenant Alan Willett, High Sheriff Mrs Georgie Warner, Kent County Agricultural Society president Lady Astor of Hever and Mid Kent and Faversham MP Hugh Robertson.

The duke then set off on foot for the young farmers' area and toured marquees housing 108 beef cows, 22 dairy cows, 97 pairs of lambs and 27 pens of pigs.

His next destination was the Why Farming Matters In Kent area. This has been set up to inform visitors about food-production in the county and includes a living orchard of Braeburn trees

grown by James Smith, of Lodington Farm, Linton.

Also on show was a strawberry polytunnel, an innovation that allows growers to maximise yields, cut harvesting costs and chemical applications and provide more than one crop each season.

"Kent produces between 40 and 60 per cent of the country's top fruit, apples and pears," said John Guest, who has spent a lifetime in the business.

"It is a very important contribution to UK agriculture and varieties are increasing."

Cookery demonstrations

with samples of Bramley apple pie were on hand, as was the opportunity to make your own apple juice and learn about the story of beer and hops in the county, courtesy of Shepherd Neame.

A lunch hosted by Lady Astor followed, before the duke was shown a tractor with a GPS system.

Other attractions for visitors include a display of horsemanship from the Devil's Horsemen and motorcycle expertise from the Royal Artillery riders, as well as ferret races and dogs trained to corral ducks.



BIG EVENT: The Duke of Kent, above, was one of many people to visit the annual county show, which offered a wonderful variety of sights and activities for people to see and enjoy



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News

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CHARITY

Fundraiser to tee off for a month

GOLF lover Trevor Sandford is on course to raise thousands of pounds for Cancer Research UK with a tee-riffic charity initiative.

Trevor, from Bearsted, will swing into action in August with a golf marathon which will see him play 31 courses around the junctions of the M25 in as many days.

Local golfers of all levels are set to join Trevor, making up a four-ball at each club. Trevor hopes to raise £5,000.

Anyone wishing to join him for a game can sign up at www.thesocialgolfer.com/FindEvent.aspx or donate at www.justgiving.com/monthofgolf2011.

FIRE

River blaze kills man in houseboat

A MAN has died following a fire on a houseboat in Maidstone.

Stephen Harrison, 49, has been named as the victim of the blaze which broke out in the early hours of last Saturday morning.

Investigations are continuing into the cause of the fire on the houseboat which was moored next

to Royal Engineers Way, on the River Medway.

Kent Fire and Rescue Service were called to put out the blaze.

Mr Harrison was pulled from the boat, where fire officers attempted resuscitation, which was taken over by ambulance staff, but they were unable to revive him.

ENVIRONMENT

Wastewater works investment

A £1.6 million investment will bring cleaner waters to the River Great Ouse, says Southern Water.

The company is improving Lenham Wastewater Treatment Works to ensure the treated wastewater leaving the site contin-

ues to meet standards set by the Environment Agency.

The scheme will help clean up to 4.3m litres of wastewater from more than 4,000 people each day.

Construction begins this month and runs until January, 2012.

HEALTH

Huge increase in numbers of people suffering depression

By Steve Knight

steve.knight@archant.co.uk

KENT is suffering a massive increase in rates of depression, with one part of the county seeing patient numbers rise by 75 per cent in just two years

Just over 121,000 adults sought help for the mental health condition in Kent in 2009-10 compared to 98,740 in 2007-08. The figures include a staggering 75 per cent rise in the number of people being diagnosed by Medway doctors, from 10,158 in 2007-08, to 17,807 in 2009-10.

The increase coincides with the UK's economic downturn – which has caused problems likely to have a negative impact on people's moods – but health experts say there may be a more simple explanation for the higher numbers.

Dr Joanne Ross, from NHS Medway, said: "Previously there has been a lot of undiagnosed depression, but there have recently been a lot of national campaigns aimed at raising awareness and increasing the range of services available.

"Anyone can get depressed and you can see how a whole load of negative life events may well contribute to someone's



LOW MOOD: Depression on rise in Kent

low mood. But whether that then reaches the level of a diagnosable clinical condition depends on family support, personal resilience and a whole lot of other factors. There's no research that says any one particular set of events, like the economic problems, will cause depression."

Despite Dr Ross' claims, the Lancet medical journal reported last week the financial crisis "almost certainly" led to an increase in suicides across Europe.

The analysis by US and UK researchers found a rise in suicides was recorded among working age people from 2007 to 2009, in nine of the 10 nations studied.

Meanwhile, the number of people diagnosed with depression in the NHS west Kent region has risen by almost 30 per cent in the last three years, from 37,562 to 48,534.

NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent experienced the smallest increase of just seven per cent, from 51,020 to 54,723.

According to official NHS statistics, one-in-four women will require treatment for depression at some point in their lives compared to one-in-10 men.

However, men are more likely to commit suicide because they are less likely to seek help for their condition.

Chatham and Aylesford Tory MP Tracey Crouch requested the Medway figures from health minister Paul Burstow.

She said: "Depression is a classless condition that can be triggered by single or multiple events in a person's life.

"It is important we consider how we tackle the increasing number of people being diagnosed with depression. The Government is looking at how to ensure mental health is a central part of health and social care policy, but it is essential this is delivered on and not just talked about."

■ See www.yourmedway.co.uk for all the news and sports headlines.

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News

for more pictures and news go to www.kentnews.co.uk

ELDERLY CARE

KCC may step in to keep threatened Southern Cross care homes open

By Steve Knight

steve.knight@archant.co.uk

KENT County Council is prepared to provide funding to keep threatened Southern Cross care homes open for their elderly residents.

The company announced its demise this week after months of speculation about its financial woes, meaning its portfolio of 752 homes will be broken up and returned to the landlords Southern Cross had been renting the properties from.

However, little is known about many of the owners, with the GMB union referring to them as a "ragbag bunch" whose number includes overseas interests.

Kent is home to 10 Southern Cross care homes employing 594 staff and with 593 beds for elderly residents.

GMB national officer Justin Bowden said: "Southern Cross may be on its last legs but for its residents and staff this looks like a case of 'out of the frying pan, into the fire'."

"All this spells months more uncertainty and worry. Where is the Government? The ears of the vulnerable residents and staff must be ringing from the deafening silence from Downing Street."

According to information obtained by the GMB, four of the Southern Cross care homes in Kent – Fairfield Manor and Woodlands in Broadstairs, Highfield in Bexesbourne, and Lauriston House in Bromley – are owned by the London-based property investment group Loopsign Ltd.

A further two – Copper Beeches in Rochester and Kingsfield in Faversham – belong to companies registered in Guernsey, while Adelaide in Bexleyheath and Frindsbury Hall in Strood are owned by firms in the Cayman Islands and Gibraltar respectively. Little is also known about PSX Holdings Ltd – the owners of Bromley's St Raphael's – while the identity of the landlord of Elvy Court in Sittingbourne is unknown.

Kent County Council funds the care of 94 people living in five of the homes, and says it expects to hear from Southern Cross regarding the future



WORRY: There are almost 600 beds at the 10 Southern Cross care homes across the county

of the properties by the end of this month.

Cabinet member for adult social services, Cllr Graham Gibbens, said: "We will continue to work with each of the five homes, and others, to make sure the welfare of residents remains the top priority and all those involved are kept safe."

"Officers are also talking to landlords to find out their plans, as the closure of the company will not necessarily mean homes stop operating."

"The county council is ready to provide short-term funding to make sure of the ongoing short-term viability of each home, and to make sure the residents will remain safe."

KCC has set up a helpline for residents and their families on 08458 247 100.

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MOURNING: Funeral procession after the 1929 Fireman's Wedding tragedy

MEMORIAL

Canadian wins memorial fight for victims of 1929 tragedy

By Steve Knight

steve.knight@archant.co.uk

A LONG overdue memorial for victims of a public fire display that went tragically wrong has finally been unveiled.

Nine adults and six children burned to death during the Gillingham Park stunt in July, 1929, when a blaze started by the town's firefighters raged out of control.

Canadian dental hygienist Lori Oschefski – a relative of one of those who perished – has been campaigning since last summer for a permanent memorial for the victims, and last Sunday her wish was granted at a service attended by more than 250 people.

The Ontario native, who flew to England especially for the unveiling, said: "It was an absolutely wonderful occasion and everyone was just so happy with the day. It couldn't have gone better."

"It finally gave all the families the chance to grieve for those who died, but there was also a lot of joy as it was a celebration of their lives as well."

"I think I've left a little piece of my heart behind in Medway. It's such a wonderful place with so many wonderful people, and I will always have a connection with the area from now on."

The Fireman's Wedding display was a popular annual attraction at Gillingham Park, and would culminate every year with the fire brigade 'rescuing' volunteers from a three-storey structure cob-



TRIBUTE: Mayor of Medway Ted Baker with Lori Oschefski at the memorial

bled together with wooden beams for the frame and tarpaulin for the walls.

It was rigged to catch fire but on the day of the tragedy the flammable liquids were triggered too early and spectators were confronted with the horror of

many of the children and adults burning or jumping to their deaths.

One of those who perished in the blaze was 12-year-old Navy cadet Eric Cheeseman, whom Mrs Oschefski later discovered was the nephew of her grandfather William Cheeseman.

She said: "I remember sitting there looking at Eric's picture when I was researching my family tree, and it really impacted upon me how precious those lives really were and how tragic and terrible this accident was."

"It seemed inconceivable to me that there was no memorial to mark what had happened and that so many people didn't even know about it."

"The main reason I petitioned for change was the sheer sense of injustice that these victims were literally becoming unrecognised and forgotten."

The new memorial is of a child and firefighter standing back-to-back, either side of an inscribed list of all 15 people killed in the blaze.

This newspaper has backed Mrs Oschefski's campaign since it began last summer and she said she could not have done it without us.

She added: "I can't thank KoSenough. Right from the start you were there to back the campaign all the way. You played a critical role in getting this memorial in place."

■ See www.yourmedway.co.uk for all the news and sports headlines.

POLICE

Officers rally to Day of Action over police cash cuts and pension fears

SIXTY-SEVEN off-duty officers from Kent Police joined a Day of Action against government cuts on Wednesday.

The protest included an open meeting and lobbying event in Westminster.

Kent Police Federation chairman Ian Pointon, said: "Police officers from constable to chief inspector and from all over Kent are giving up their own time to go to London for this day of action. It is a measure of how strongly officers feel about this. "It isn't rocket science to appreci-

ate that 500 fewer police officers and 1,000 fewer police staff will have a hugely detrimental impact on the policing service the people of Kent receive. In a recent survey 87 per cent of officers said crime will rise; this is based on their professional opinion.

"Officers are also concerned about the double whammy they are facing over their pensions and pay. In a survey a staggering 98 per cent of officers in Kent said morale had fallen. Is this government soft on crime – tough on the fighters of crime?"

HERITAGE

Scenic Railway listed status gets upgraded

THE Scenic Railway at Dreamland in Margate, has had its listing upgraded from Grade II to Grade II* on the advice of English Heritage.

The ride, built in 1920, is the oldest surviving roller coaster in Britain and is among the five oldest in the world.

Despite historic and recent fire damage, the integrity of the design remains.

Emily Gee of English Heritage said: "Its age, rarity and design interest mean that listing in Grade II* is fully warranted."

English Heritage is working with the site owner, the Dreamland Trust and Thanet District Council to secure a long-term future for the Dreamland site and restoration of the Railway.

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News

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TRANSPORT

Kent among worst for rush-hour emissions

GREEN campaigners are pushing for people to consider eco-friendly ways to get to work after research revealed the extent of Kent's rush-hour emissions.

The county was exposed as one of the UK's worst offenders, with the average person adding more carbon emissions to the environment on the trek to and from work than those living in London.

A study by Imperial College London for EDF Energy found residents contributed 2.37kg of Co2 per person per day – 1.02kg more than in the capital – to the staggering 29.7 million tonnes released across Britain every year.

The average journey time of people using their cars to get to work in Kent was 25 minutes.

EDF's Team Green Britain are pushing for residents to ditch cars and instead try walking, cycling, or car sharing for longer journeys.

EDF spokesman Gareth Wynn, said: "We believe the take up of low-carbon transport is crucial to Britain meeting its carbon reduction targets and it is an important part of helping to reduce Kent's carbon emissions."

Nationally, the amount of emissions released during rush hour annually equates to more than 280,000 lorries covering 100,000km.

Kent County Council acts as a launch pad for car-sharing schemes, helping individuals and companies get involved or start initiatives.

A KCC spokesman said: "Setting up a journey share scheme will help to reduce Co2 emissions and pollution; provide a cheap way for staff to get to the office; cut local traffic and congestion levels; reduce pressure on car parking; improve relations with the local community; and widen recruitment catchment area for staff."

For information go to www.kentcarshare.lift-share.com.

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Real Faces, New Places**Martin Burke shares his experience of Samphire Hoe**

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With the sea on one side and the White Cliffs on the other this is an ideal place for all the family. *Martin Burke*

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News

TOURISM

The darling buds of a

By Steve Knight

steve.knight@archant.co.uk

A TOURIST trail celebrating Kent's strong connection with the Darling Buds of May could be the 'perfick' way to boost visitor numbers to the county.

The hit 1990s comedy-drama, which starred Sir David Jason and helped launch the career of Hollywood star Catherine Zeta-Jones, was filmed in and around the village of Pluckley, near Ashford.

And to coincide with the 20th anniversary of the show's first episode, tourism bosses have set up a trail of filming locations which they hope will also persuade visitors to explore the best of Kent's local food and drink.

These include the Larkin family home at Buss Farm in Bethersden, and their local, the Black Horse at Pluckley.

Richard Bates – son of Darling Buds author HE Bates and executive producer of the wildly popular ITV show – told KoS he was pleased to be associated with the initiative.

He said: "I think it's a brilliant idea because compared to some other counties, Kent perhaps doesn't get as much funding as it really needs to promote itself as a tourist destination.

"I think using the Darling Buds of May, which is still held in great affection by the public, is an excellent way to publicise local venues and producers, farms and vineyards."

HE Bates, who lived in Little Chart, came up with the idea for the Darling Buds of May book in the mid 1930s when he and his wife stopped off at a village store as they drove across the Downs towards Sittingbourne.

While the author waited in the car, a couple with a large brood of children burst out of the shop licking ice-creams and clutching sweets before piling into the back of a big blue truck. It was they who were the inspiration for the Larkin family.

"A condition of the television contract was that the series would be made largely in Kent," said Mr Bates, who now lives in Wye. "I wouldn't have allowed it to have been set anywhere else.

"I think all the cast enjoyed their time here enormously. We stayed in local hotels and often ate in local restaurants at the end of a day's film-



ing, so I'm sure they all have happy memories.

"Pam Ferris (Ma Larkin) actually lives in Kent now, and it's very likely she moved here because of her experiences on the Darling Buds of May."

The tourist trail has been put together by Kent County Council, Produced in Kent, and Visit Kent.

In addition to filming locations from the show, it also includes attractions like agricultural museums, working windmills, and the Kent and East Sussex Railway.

KCC cabinet member for customer and communities, Cllr Mike Hill, said: "We have had tremendous success in the past capturing film tourism with projects like the Other Boleyn Girl movie map.

"This lovely series has provided an opportunity to go a step further and generate interest in

CRIME

Man, 43, jailed for having sex with 14-year-old girl

A MIDDLE-AGED man who groomed a 14-year-old girl before persuading her to run away with him, has been jailed for four years.

Having had a sexual relationship with the "vulnerable young girl" for months, he was finally caught after police sent a specially-trained team to snare him after he convinced the teenager to leave her parents and flee with him to London.

Glyn James Thomas, 43, of Ypres Drive, Kemsley – who before that lived in Faversham for many years – pleaded guilty to three counts of "engaging in penetrative sexual activity" with the schoolgirl.

Maidstone Crown Court heard how Thomas groomed the girl for months.

Judge Carey told Thomas during sentencing: "The victim has been substantially affected by these offences; she is a vulnerable young girl with her own problems and difficulties.

"You abused her in the most fundamental way possible, when you should have assisted her, you instead abused her.

"Although you are attempting to present that you are remorseful, I am doubtful of this."

Det Con John Milham of the Public Protection Unit at Swale, who investigated the

case, said: "Glyn Thomas deliberately set out to groom this very vulnerable child for the sole purpose of sexually abusing her, abuse that continued for several months.

"I would like to pay tribute to the child victim in this case who was able to find the courage to provide police with sufficient evidence to convict Thomas."

Thomas has been given an indefinite Sexual Offences Prevention Order, he is barred from working with children or vulnerable adults, and must complete a sex offender treatment programme while in prison.

new tourism venture



Pictures: ITV

local produce and visitor attractions, as well as filming locations.

"Tourism is absolutely vital for Kent's economy and I am delighted this new trail will give us the chance to show off some of the wonderful sights,

tastes and entertainment our county has to offer."

Download the tourist trail at www.kent.gov.uk/filmooffice.

■ Go to www.yourashford.co.uk for the all latest news and sports headlines.



IN OUR HEARTS:

Twenty years after it first hit our TV screens, *The Darling Buds of May* is still popular with viewers. It starred Sir David Jason and also launched the career of Catherine Zeta-Jones



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(T&C's below)

CAROLINE size 16, seeks kind, honest, loving gent, 45 plus for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 371099

LONELY Folkestone lady, 57, 5ft 11ins, medium build, N/S, seeks caring, considerate male for walks by the sea and pubs. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 371067

AFRICAN female, likes cooking, travel seeks male for fun and friendship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386712

DONNA 47, bubbly, caring, loving, seeks genuine, loving guy. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 370863

VERY good looking Turkish female looking to meet male 29-45 for fun friendship. Looks/race/status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 370183

ACTIVE solvent female with GSOH looking to start life again but this time be a lot more adventurous, care to join me? Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 370181

CONFIDENT fun female bored of spending time alone, looking for fun man to share lots of laughs and good times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 370177

JACKIE petite attractive, brown hair/eyes, many interests, OHAC, looking for sincere male who also likes good food and wine. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 370123

COUNTRY loving lass seeks country fellow for pleasant weekends down on the farm. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 370121

WELL grounded 25yr old attractive female, seeks similar male up to 40yrs for mutual friendship and meets. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 370117

BEAUTIFUL stunning young lady, 21, seeks older, retired god 70 plus to take care of her. London. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386187

JACKIE 48, 5ft 3ins, medium build, likes animals, nights in/out, walks, seeks male, 48-58 for friendship, maybe more, preferably a smoker. Maidstone. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 368039

LISTEN up! Attractive female, W/LTM male into music, films, sport and theatre. London. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 367971

CONFIDENT blue eyed brunette, intelligent, cultured and attractive, very solvent, looking for happy older male who will let me look after him. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 368401

30YR old beautiful blonde with lovely green eyes looking for uncomplicated love and romance with a tall dark haired male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 368003

ATTRACTIVE slim 52yr old female, seeks N/S companion, 52-60 to share country-side, walking, swimming, days out, holidays etc. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 369179

34YR old single mum of 2, size 16, caring, cuddly, seeks genuine, loving male with GSOH. Ashford. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 368268

FED up with lonely nights in! 33yr old brunette with green eyes W/LTM someone 35-50yrs for TLC maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 369913

BEAUTIFUL blue eyed blonde, 26, slim, looking for evenings out with male. ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 369911

22YR old leggy blonde, seeking likeminded man for lots of fun times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 369909

LADY 56, semi disabled, size 18, seeking a caring, loving, honest gent, 50 plus. Kent. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 365453

48YR old female, 5ft 3ins, medium build, likes animals, nights in/out, holidays, coast, seeks male, 48-50, preferably a smoker for LTR. Maidstone. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 365955

LYNNE slim, scatty blonde, mid 50's, looking for some fun and company. Margate. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 368428

I'M Gorgeous, lively seeking a similar professional who thinks he can handle me, good times guaranteed. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 369223

TUNNING blonde nurse, 32, funny and romantic, W/LTM uncomplicated, reliable male, 50-65yrs for companionship and more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 369221

JACQUELINE 48, medium build, likes nights in/out, seeks male, 40-58 for friendship, maybe more. Maidstone. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 370747

ACTIVE slim female 30yrs, easygoing, honest with GSOH and a passion for life looking for genuine man to fall for, 28-50yrs. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 370087

BEAUTIFUL size 10 figured female for relaxed hair, big brown eyes 41yrs looking for brown relationship with man, 20-38yrs. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 370091

ATTRACTIVE slim professional 35yrs seeking similar lonely professional for drinks/meals out and mutual friendship out of hours. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 370003

PAT 70's, 5ft, cuddly, seeks male for friendship and days out. Ashford. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 369521

WANTED, Nice sincere man, 45-55 looking for LTR with kind, sincere female, dark hair, 5ft 8ins, likes winning/dining, pubs. Welling. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 369417

ISABELLE lovely lady, genuine, honest, loving, caring, 68, N/S, non drinker, slightly disabled, W/LTM male for love, companionship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 347305

26YR old social pretty blonde with baby blue eyes, seeks outgoing, fun, spontaneous male for friendship/more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 369219

AFFECTIONATE female seeks warm hearted kind guy, if he exists, for good conversation, fun times and laughs. 40-57yrs Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 369197

SHY brunette, 22, perfect size 10, blue eyes, 5ft 2ins, own car, seeks male to cosy up with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 369193

BETH young minded widow, 65, 5ft 5ins, happy, size 14, N/S, many interests, seeks sincere, honest gent for friendship who might admit to some aching bones. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 344291

CARING young 62 petite blonde, seeks someone to share doing things with, the, theatre, dancing and perhaps nights in. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 359761

57YR old lady, works, divorced, likes beach, meals out, theatre, travel, weekends away, seeks white male, 56-61 for GSOH for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 359685

YOUNG 54yr old female, slim, 5ft 8ins, seeks tall, honest, caring guy for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 362669

SALLY petite, confident lady, happy go lucky, likes dancing, walks, TV, seeks male/sol male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 362665

30YR old brunette flt, feminine, attractive, free, single and looking for love with similar fun loving guy. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 365075

36YR old female looking for mutual companionship with understanding man stuck in a similar rut. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 365421

64YR old female, 5ft 2ins, GSOH, likes golf, seeks male with GSOH for friendship, days out, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 339581

WARM well educated 60's female, seeks similar gent to enjoy the simple things of life. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 360477

ELIZABETH loving, kind, caring, seeks older gent, 78 plus for fun times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366603

VERY cute, slim, black professional female, 36, looking for love! If you are honest, passionate, caring and spontaneous, ring me. Any race. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366725

GREEN eyed blonde in need of love and attention seeks youthful, trendy experienced guy to enjoy good times. Any age/status. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366723

ATTRACTIVE young hearted female, fed up with being alone, so if you feel the same, give me a call, lets get together. ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366721

TALL blue eyed 30's female, brown hair, lots of interests, seeks male for good times. Any age/looks/status. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366705

ATTRACTIVE lady, seeks kind, solvent male for romance and possibly love. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 360159

LYNNE slim, scatty blonde, mid 50's, looking for some fun and company. Margate. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366428

CARING female, 64, blonde hair, blue eyes, 5ft 4ins, medium build, seeks male, 60-70 for friendship, maybe more. Kent. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 369593

SUSIE 5ft 7ins, blonde, seeks educated attractive male for loving relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385476

34YR old blonde new to the area, seeking younger guy for fun times maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 365079

FUN loving curvy red head 32yrs, loves good food/wine, W/LTM male who appreciates a real woman and knows what he likes. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 365077

ACADEMIC man sought by female, recent graduate, into art, history, psychology, likes usual activities as well as London art galleries and walks. Birmley. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 365501

ATTRACTIVE confident lady, 37, independent, HIV Positive, seeks male for companionship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 363415

FUN female 35yrs looking to let her hair down seeks easygoing N/S guy for a relationship, 30-65. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 368001

SINGLE confident black female 32yrs, very attractive, loves doing fun and interesting things, seeking a real man. Any race/age. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 367999

ATTRACTIVE and any man's dream seeks, outgoing, professional male for evenings in and fun nights out. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366703

CUTE very curvy young girl, 18, W/LTM romantic guy for lots of fun and loving. Looks/status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366699

MAIDSTONE lady, pretty, petite, late 50's, honest, caring, N/S, loves life and most things, seeks nice guy for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366501

BARBARA 46, seeks nice, steady male up to 50 for friendship, maybe more. Heathrow. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 361701

ELIZABETH caring, honest, reliable, likes things, seeks older, late 70's for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 365989

SLIM attractive, elegant female, likes travel, restaurants, cinema, seeks caring, male, 45-55 for friendship, possible relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 361571

SALLY independent, intelligent, confident, caring female, seeking a similar soul mate. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 361575

INDEPENDENT 52yr old slim, N/S female, likes country walks, swimming, animals, meals/days out, seeks N/S similar aged male for friendship/companionship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366999

PETITE brunette, blue eyes witty and fun, looking for similar kind, laid back male to sweep her off her feet. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 368407

MISS Gorgeous, 5ft 8ins, black beauty, curvy, likes a laugh, happy go lucky, seeks male for fun times. Hackney. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 365861

SINGLE 50 plus female, seeks male who likes talks, walks, dining and dancing. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 364975

FEMALE 25, professional, likes nights out, socialising, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 369091

A rare diamond, bright, sparkly and good quality, let me put the sparkle back into your life. Wanted professional, attractive male, 38-58, medium build, 5ft 8ins. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 361005

LADY slim, brunette, N/S, likes music, National Trust, theatre, days out, seeks sincere, honest gent, 48-60 for friendship, maybe more. Kent/Sussex. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 360633

42YR old female, likes music, dancing, writing, astrology, cats, seeks male with GSOH and similar age. Medway. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351577

48YR old female, average build, good looking, likes most things, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 363321

FUN outgoing lady, seeks spontaneous male, 37-60, adventurous, professional, attractive. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 363331

PRETTY woman, slim, black, widow, 39, energetic, seeks white, solvent male for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 360695

52YR old female, likes walks, animals, theatre, cinema, seeks male for companionship/LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 365995

LATE 20's female seeking older male. Call to hear exactly what I'm like and looking for. I can meet anywhere in London at any time. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 365995

TALL slim brunette, just 21yrs seeks interesting older male who knows what's what, show me the ways of the world. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 365989

SOUTH London Lady, full figure with long hair, curves in all the right places. W/LTM male of any age for fun, friendship and more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 365989

HAZEL blonde, 62, pretty, cuddly, N/S, non drinker, seeks genuine, attractive male, 55-65 for fun and friendship. Ramsgate. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366319

LORRAINE seeks trustworthy white male with GSOH for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 363793

DONNA 35, single mum of 3, seeks male with GSOH, 35-40. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 365044

5FT 2ins female, brown hair blue eyes, homey, down to earth, seeks male for LTR. Kent. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366525

BLONDE earned female, trendy, 46, GSOH, likes pubs, nights in, seeks male. Medway. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 364852

JANE 27, caring, bubbly, likes nights out, cinema, bowling, DVDs, seeks male for fun and friendship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 363203

LOOKING for my soul mate, 57, lonely, caring, affectionate, likes a drink in good company, 5ft 11ins, hazel eyes, seeks someone to share life with. Is that you? Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385172

LADY 50, sn/out, enjoys nights in/out, cinema, travel, country walks, seeks sincere, genuine male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 367851

ATTRACTIVE mature, outgoing Caribbean female, seeks interesting companion for socialising, good conversation and glass of wine. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 367799

YOUNG 60 something female looking for friendship only with likeminded ladies for meals out, nights out and holidays. Feltham. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 367625

PETITE brunette, blue eyes witty and fun, looking for similar kind, laid back male to sweep her off her feet. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 368407

YOUNG very fit brunette 23yrs, likes to look good, seeks similar sporty guy for some relaxed fun. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 368405

PETITE female, slim, attractive, blonde hair, green eyes, GSOH, romantic, likes sports, nights out, meals, seeks honest, genuine, N/S male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 364613

FEMALE 27, seeks older gent, 65 plus to take care of me. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 362202

PATRICIA outgoing, confident, feminine, warm, friendly, smart, good company, attractive, seeks similar male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 347215

FEMININE lady who knows how to treat her man seeks strong minded male to care for, any area London/Surrey/Kent. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 359895

FT lady, 65, thinks she's 40, N/S, loves life, seeks genuine gent, 60-70 N/S for happy loving, exciting times. Gravesend. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353111

SINGLE mum, 39, likes most things, seeks male with GSOH for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349999

OLD fashioned girl, 48, fun, friendly, seeks mature male for fun, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382192

GENUINE loving female, 40, seeks loving male, 40-50 for friendship and LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 354587

LADY seeks N/S, clean shaven male to appreciate artistic, romantic, feels attractive, slimslim, curvy lady of 69 who has not yet joined the wrinkles. Ashford. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349577

GORGEOUS lonely lass, 45, looking for some romantic liaisons with younger male, looks important, no chancers. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 364415

MARY 60, good for age, GSOH, likes cooking, meals out, looking for some fun company, possible romance. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 364357

TINKERBELLE seeks Peter Pan, I'm 36, 5ft 3ins, size 8-10 and am looking for a tall strong man who can connect and make me laugh. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 358721

ATTRACTIVE warm, blonde female, European, 49, seeks honest, generous male, 50 plus who will take care of me. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 364277

GLASS half N/S mid 50's woman, seeks other half. Are you a professional man, 50-60 who likes the finer things in life? Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 363969

49YR old lady, honest, sincere, easygoing, likes a laugh, looking for love. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 359059

LORNA 66, nurse, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 364237

FEMALE 64, brown/grey hair, medium build, honest, caring, loving, seeks similar in male, 30-60 for friendship/relationship. Medway. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 364245

UNIQUE attractive black female, 37, slim, enjoys music, reading, theatre nature, W/LTM genuine gent, 37-49 to share laughter and life, caring, N/S who lives near London. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 333815

ANNE 61, 5ft 3ins, medium build, blue eyes, blonde hair, seeks honest male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 361245

65YR old slim brunette, caring, loving, many interests, arts, crafts, walks, animals, cooking, seeks attractive, compatible male. Dog owner in Maidstone perfect. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 363876

NATALIA attractive, brunette, brown eyes, 40's, N/S, flt, friendly, seeks sincere, N/S, solvent male for love and relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 344939

PROFESSIONAL attractive, friendly, black British female, mid 40's, size 10-12 likes socialising, seeks sincere male of any nationality for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 341125

ATTRACTIVE black lady, 5ft 8ins, black hair, slim, kissable lips, likes walks, horse riding, go karts, seeks professional white male, 35-45, athletic, 5ft 11ins-6ft. London. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 358987

BLACK female, likes meals out, theatre, seeks solvent white male, 30-47 for genuine relationship. Ashford. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382910

LONELY female, petite, attractive, size 8-10, blue eyes, long hair, likes historic places, holidays, meals out, seeks honest, genuine male for friendship initially. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 356359

POLITE bubbly female, GSOH, seeks gent for caring friendship, likes nights in and socialising. Dartford. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382666

SEALED with a kiss. 37yr old single mum, blonde hair, blue eyes, curvy, likes sun, shine, travel, looking for Knight in shining armour, to make me laugh and spoil me. Folkestone. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 355543

LADY 44, GSOH, short, curvy, dark hair, seeks good guy for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 355391

FEMALE seeks kind, caring white male, 42-50, tidy and clean for friendship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 363197

DEBBIE mid 50's, attractive, likes dancing, music, cinema, theatre, seeks male for companionship. Maidstone. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351419

28YR old brunette, seeks fun loving, adventurous male for relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380915

LISA 42, medium build, likes cooking, walks, music, days in/out, W/LTM caring, down to earth male, 40-50. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 332817

OUTGOING sincere 5ft 6ins lady W/LTM tall, caring interesting male 70's to share life adventure. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 357959

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(T&C's below)

GOOD looking 41yr old male, looking to make someone laugh and smile, 41-60. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No:

News

CRUISES

Paddle steamer gives a wide berth to county

By Marijke Cox

marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

THE world's last remaining sea-going paddle steamer is to stop running trips from Dover due to a row over harbour fees.

Instead the famous Waverley, which holds up to 500 passengers, will sail empty from Portsmouth straight to London, missing out the South East. Previously the boat would travel to Dover port and stop overnight before picking up passengers and moving on to Tower Bridge.

Waverley Excursions Ltd (WEL), which runs as a charity, blamed Dover Harbour Board (DHB) for imposing a "significant" increase in charges to use the harbour.

But port bosses said although there was a rise on some charges, they were in line with Retail Price Index and the charity enjoyed discounted rates.

WEL general manager Kathleen O'Neill said previous costs



HISTORIC: The paddle steamer will no longer visit Dover port

of £2,000 for using the harbour once or twice a year had rocketed and the paddle-steamer, which has been visiting Dover for more than 20 years, would no longer be stopping there.

"The level of charges is now so high that it is no longer economically viable for our charity to offer these cruises," she said.

The Waverley was built in 1947 and underwent a major restoration in 2003.

Every year the boat made two trips along the south coast to Dover and on to London.

Ms O'Neill said: "The people of Dover and Kent want to sail aboard the last sea-going paddle steamer in the world. They want to view the White Cliffs of Dover from the ship. We want to be able to provide this."

The harbour board said it was disappointed to hear of the charity's plans to stop visits to the port, but stressed DHB had supported WEL's by offering substantial discounts on the normal published tariffs.

The spokeswoman said in May, 2010, DHB wrote to WEL with a copy of port charges stating the charity would still "enjoy privileged terms" but that there were increases on some standard port charges.

She added: "We are saddened that such goodwill shown exclusively to WEL in recognition of its charitable status can be thrown back after they made full use of the port's facilities without query regarding cost."

■ See www.yourdoover.co.uk for all the news and sport.

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News

LORD LIEUTENANT

The Queen's man in Kent bids

By Steve Knight

steve.knight@archant.co.uk

THE future of the monarchy is in good hands with William and Kate at the helm, says the outgoing Lord Lieutenant of Kent.

Allan Willett, who retires next month from his role as the Queen's representative in the county, told KoS the Royal Family's newest married couple had given Britain a "morale boost" and were loved around the world.

The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge arrived back in the UK this week following a successful nine-day trip to Canada and the west coast of the US, marking their first official tour since an estimated global television audience of 300 million watched their wedding back in April.

Mr Willett said: "There is no question the nation and the Commonwealth would be the poorer without the Royal family."

"You only have to think back to the Royal wedding to recall the wonderful pageantry that gave us all such a morale boost and was followed with huge interest from all around the world."

"People say no-one can stage events like this as well as the British, and there's no doubt we are very good at it."

"It was wonderful to see two young people deeply in love, and now already performing public duties with great warmth and style. The future of the monarchy is in very good hands."

Mr Willett is a philanthropist and former



international businessman, having made his fortune from the packaging and plastics machinery industry.

ROYAL DUTIES: Lord Lieutenant Allan Willett with the Queen

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us farewell

He was appointed Lord Lieutenant in 2002, and since that time he and his wife Anne have carried out hundreds of public engagements throughout the county, including about 100 royal visits.

But all that will come to an end next month when he retires on the day of his 75th birthday.

"I feel honoured to have represented Her Majesty the Queen in Kent," he said. "We are privileged to live in this beautiful county, and I am proud of what the Lieutenantcy is doing to serve all our communities and celebrate all that is good about Kent."

"I would best like to be remembered as someone who modernised the Lieutenantcy, making it relevant for the 21st century. Our most important campaigns have been encouraging greater public support for our Armed Forces and their families, celebrating youth achievement and fostering community volunteering."

Mr Willett, who was diagnosed with prostate cancer in May last year, will be replaced as Lord Lieutenant by his current right-hand man Viscount De L'Isle.

The stated aims of the Lieutenantcy of Kent are to provide a focus for county identity, unity and pride; to give a sense of stability; to recognise achievements, success and excellence; and to promote service to others.

Mr Willett said: "My farewell message is simple. As the frontline county, always in the vanguard of the nation, Kent has an extraordinary history."

"But however proud of it we are, the past is the past. The really important thing is the future, and we should go forward together, proud of our past and confident of our future."



LOOKING FORWARD: Allan Willett is confident in the future of the monarchy in the hands of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, newlyweds Kate and William

ENTERTAINMENT

Castle comes under siege

TALENTED youngsters from Medway are ready to storm the Castle Concerts stage during the Under Siege concert on Sunday, July 17.

The free event gives some of the area's most gifted young performers the chance to showcase their talents on the Castle Concerts stage.

This year the Under Siege performers will follow in the footsteps of Squeeze, Peter Andre, N-Dubz and the Royal

Philharmonic Proms Orchestra at Rochester Castle.

All the youngsters will perform on the same full-sized stage, with professional equipment and the support of an experienced crew.

There are 18 acts in the line-up this year, covering everything from alternative rock to musical theatre.

Gates open at noon and the concert is due to take place from 1-3.30pm.

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MEMORIAL

Battle of Britain hero's poems to help fund education centre

By Steve Knight

steve.knight@archant.co.uk

A VETERAN Spitfire pilot is donating the proceeds of his new poetry book to help fund a Battle of Britain education centre.

Flight Lieutenant William Walker, 97, who survived being shot down over the Channel in 1940, was among those who attended the annual memorial flyover at Capel-le-Ferne, Folkestone, on Sunday.

The memorial site is already home to a replica Spitfire and Hurricane as well as an engraved list of all those who took part in the Battle of Britain, and there are now plans to build a learning centre known as The Wing there, too.

Flt Lt Walker said: "I write poems for pleasure and as a mental stimulant and had never envisaged that a day might come when they might be used to help a cause so close to my heart.

"When the Battle of Britain Memorial Trust decided to print a book of my verses, I realised it was an opportunity to repay, in some measure, a great debt of gratitude for many wonderful years of kindness and help.

"By donating the copyright of all my verses to the trust I hope it will prove to be helpful in raising revenue towards the



important learning centre project, and for maintaining our memorial site."

Flt Lt Walker was part of a squadron intercepting German bombers at Dover and Dungeness on August 26, 1940, but during the fight his aircraft was badly damaged and he received a bullet in his right ankle.

He baled out and landed in the Channel close to a shipwreck, which he clung onto until being rescued by a fishing boat and eventually transported to Ramsgate Hospital. Nurses at the hospital, which had been badly damaged by bombing, realised they could not deal with Flt Lt Walker's wound so the next day he was taken by ambulance to the RAF hospital at Halton in Buckinghamshire.

Following the war the brave pilot worked his way up to the position of chairman at the now-defunct Ind Coope brewery, a job from which he retired 38 years ago.

Flt Lt Walker said: "My annual pilgrimage to Capel-le-Ferne to attend our memorial service and see our memorial wall gives me the opportunity to see again the names of so many friends who are constantly in my thoughts, and it is comforting to know they will always be remembered and thought of by those who visit the site.

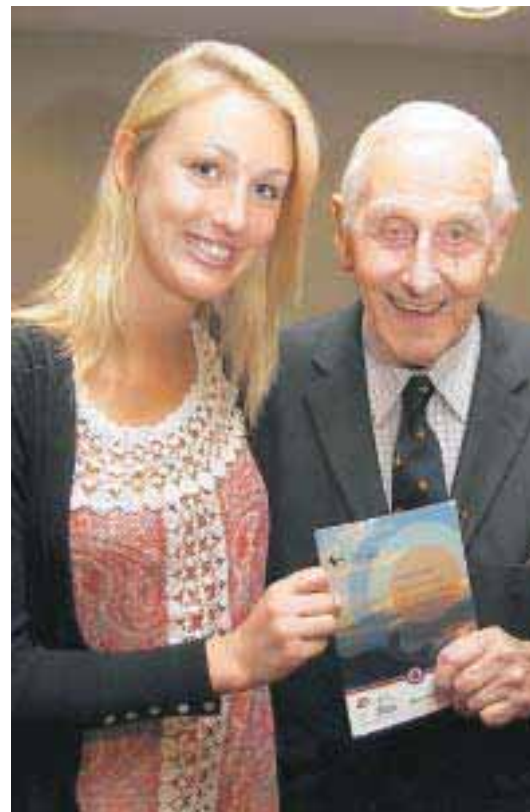
"Sadly the number of veterans able to attend the service has diminished alarmingly over the last few years, but it remains a nostalgic pleasure for the few who can still make it."

The planned learning centre at the memorial includes an exhibition space and a classroom with both internal and external viewing areas, as well as views across the Channel towards France.

A number of "significant contributions" have already been made to the appeal fund, but the trust says a "substantial" six-figure sum still needs to be raised.

Visit www.battleofbritainmemorial.org to order a copy of Flt Lt Walker's book.

■ See www.yourshepway.co.uk for all the latest news and sport headlines.



GENEROUS GIFT: Flt Lt William Walker with his granddaughter Chloe and his poetry book; left is the statue at Capel-le-Ferne



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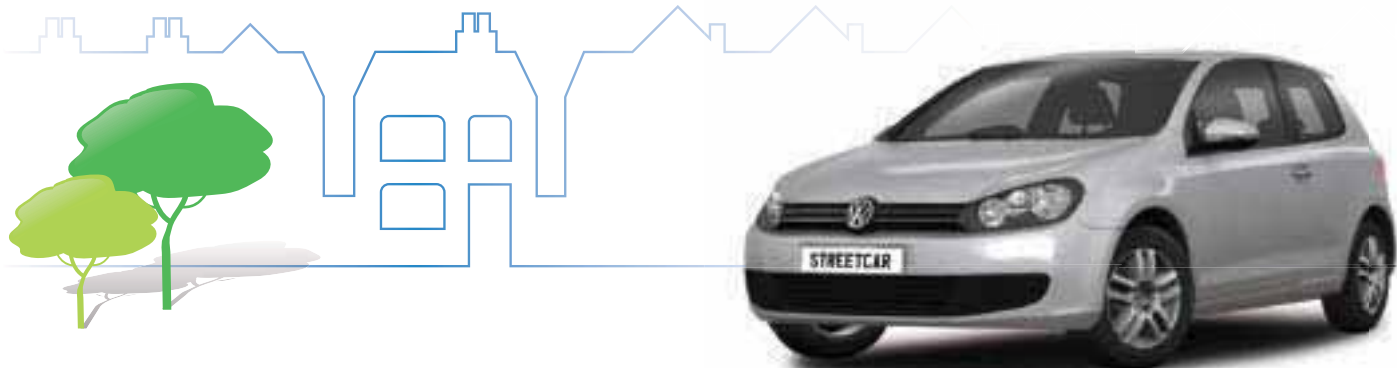
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News

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COURT

Dropped butt proves costly

A QUICK smoke has cost a pub landlady £340.

Elaine Willson, 55, who runs the Dog and Bone in Gillingham, was seen by a community officer from Medway Council dropping the cigarette in the High Street and was issued with a fixed penalty notice for £80, which she failed to pay.

Magistrates ordered her to pay a fine of £175, costs of £150 and a victim surcharge of £15.

CRIME

'KCC' phone scam warning

KENT Trading Standards is warning of fraudulent automated phone calls claiming to be from Kent County Council.

The recorded voice states they have an urgent message for a Mr Peter Barnsley, and asks you choose from various options.

Officials say the call is a scam, and is not from KCC.

They warn that by choosing an option, you could be charged for a premium rate call.

ROADS

An answer to misery of Operation Stack could be agreed by Christmas

By Marijke Cox

marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

A SOLUTION which could end years of suffering from Operation Stack will be decided before the end of this year.

MPs, council chiefs, business leaders and Kent Police's Chief Constable Ian Learmonth met to discuss how to solve problems caused when Operation Stack is implemented during problems at the Port of Dover or Channel Tunnel.

The traffic system is brought in usually when crossings are delayed or cancelled resulting in hundreds of lorries queuing on the M20 between junctions 11 at Hythe and 12 at Cheriton, with other traffic diverted along the A20.

When the port is under severe pressure, junctions eight to nine, Maidstone to Ashford, are closed and lorries parked on the motorway.

Speaking ahead of the high-level summit on Friday, Damian Collins, MP for Folkestone and Hythe, said the matter had never been satisfactorily addressed and there needed to be "serious and workable" solutions.

The two proposals discussed involved a scaled-down version of the Aldington lorry park plan, championed by Kent County Council leader Cllr

Paul Carter, and a new plan introduced by Mr Collins, based on the idea of a network of smaller lorry sites along the M20 and in Dover.

Speaking after the meeting, Cllr Carter said his "common sense" idea had been welcomed.

"The lorry park plan is the most common sense solution. It's a more minimalist scheme than the original idea. Lorries would come off at Sellindge and go under an existing tunnel into old land which is next to an electricity substation and can't really be seen," he said.

Cllr Carter said the park, which would cost between £15m-20m, would hold 3,000 lorries and have facilities for drivers.

His original scheme, which came under fire from Aldington residents, was floated at the beginning of 2008 and involved building a junction and slip road, with costs soaring to as much as £50m.

Cllr Carter said with the new, cheaper, proposal financial contributions could come from the police – which spent £2m in 2008 coping with Operation Stack and using officers that would otherwise be on the frontline – and the Highways Agency.

But Mr Collins put forward a counter-proposal at the meeting involving a smaller network of lorry parks by the M20, including one at Dover.



MOTORWAY

MADNESS: Hundreds of lorries are left stranded on parts of the M20 when Stack is implemented, causing traffic chaos for thousand of motorists

He said he had a meeting with ministers in the autumn, where he will propose developments easing problems associated with Operation Stack should be part of national infrastructure – to help overcome planning laws – by arguing that Kent bears the brunt for the rest of the country.

Kent Police Assistant Chief Constable Andy Adams said it was crucial a solution was found and quickly.

A further meeting will be held later this year with hopes of a final decision.

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OPINION

Disabled do have our support

Maria Miller, the minister for disability, work and pensions, responds to the recent welfare reform protests and explains how the changes work

If you or someone in your family is disabled then you may have concerns about what welfare reform means for you.

After the Hardest Hit march in London, I want to reassure people reading this in Kent that this government is absolutely committed to supporting disabled people.

We are more determined than ever to help them live independently and we spend more than £40 billion a year on disabled people and services – including £12bn on Disability Living Allowance (DLA).

But we also need to face the fact that the current benefit system is not always reaching those who need it most. It can't be right, for instance, that more people get £51.40 per week, the higher rate mobility, of DLA for drug and alcohol abuse than for blindness.

DLA has to work better to reach the disabled people who need it. That's why we will

replace it with a Personal Independence Payment (PIP) to help ensure people get the right levels of support. I want to be clear that this will continue to be a non means-tested cash benefit, paid in and out of work and will continue to help disabled people with the mobility and care costs they incur.

If you've been through a Work Capability Assessment (WCA) and are on IB or ESA then you may feel anxious about the new assessment for PIP and I understand your concerns. The assessment that we inherited didn't work as it should and some disabled people have felt let down. We have worked hard to put this right and have made a series of changes to improve it.

But we need to have a proper system of assessment for PIP so that we can be sure people are getting the money they should be. The way DLA works at the moment means disabled people

lose out on around £200m a year in underpayments.

The new payment will be awarded following a more transparent assessment which we are developing with the help of disability organisations. Our proposals also include reassessments to ensure everyone receives the correct amount as their needs change.

But our reforms are to more than just benefits. It can't be right that a lot of disabled people still feel their choices are a life on benefits or a job that doesn't make use of their skills. When I talk to disabled people what I hear is that they want us to help level the playing field so that there is real opportunity and choice to get the jobs they want or the support they need.

That's why we will carry on spending on programmes like Access to Work. This helps disabled people with things like travel costs to work or specialist equipment or adaptations



6699

People should not get more for alcohol abuse than for being blind

to their work place. We spend around £100m a year on Access to Work – helping more people than ever before get into and stay in work.

We won't allow the mistakes of the past to be repeated. The Work Choice programme introduced last October is expected to support more severely disabled people into work each year than its predecessor programmes and the Work Programme will provide more tailored employment support.

Attitudes to disability and the expectations of disabled people have changed massively in the last 40 years since the Disabled Person's Act and we need to make sure that both benefits and employment support reflect that.

I know change is worrying and people want to be sure the Government is listening. I will continue to work with disabled people and their organisations and listen to their concerns.

KOS COMMENT

Enjoy your weekend of fun to remember

THE weekend thousands of people have been waiting for is here, with the much-anticipated Open golf championship and return of the ever-popular Kent County Show.

The roads might be a pain, but with the buzz of excitement surrounding The Open and fun-filled programme for the county show, don't let traffic spoil the fun. All that's needed now is for the rain to stay away and the sun to arrive to guarantee the perfect Kent weekend.

Thank you Mr Willett, you'll be sorely missed

AFTER almost 10 years representing the Queen in this county, the Lord Lieutenant of Kent, Allan Willett has hung up his hat.

During his time in the honoured post, Mr Willett did a great job launching successful campaigns celebrating youth achievement and pushing for public support for the Armed Forces.

His passion will be missed. We would like to wish him good health and all the best for the future.

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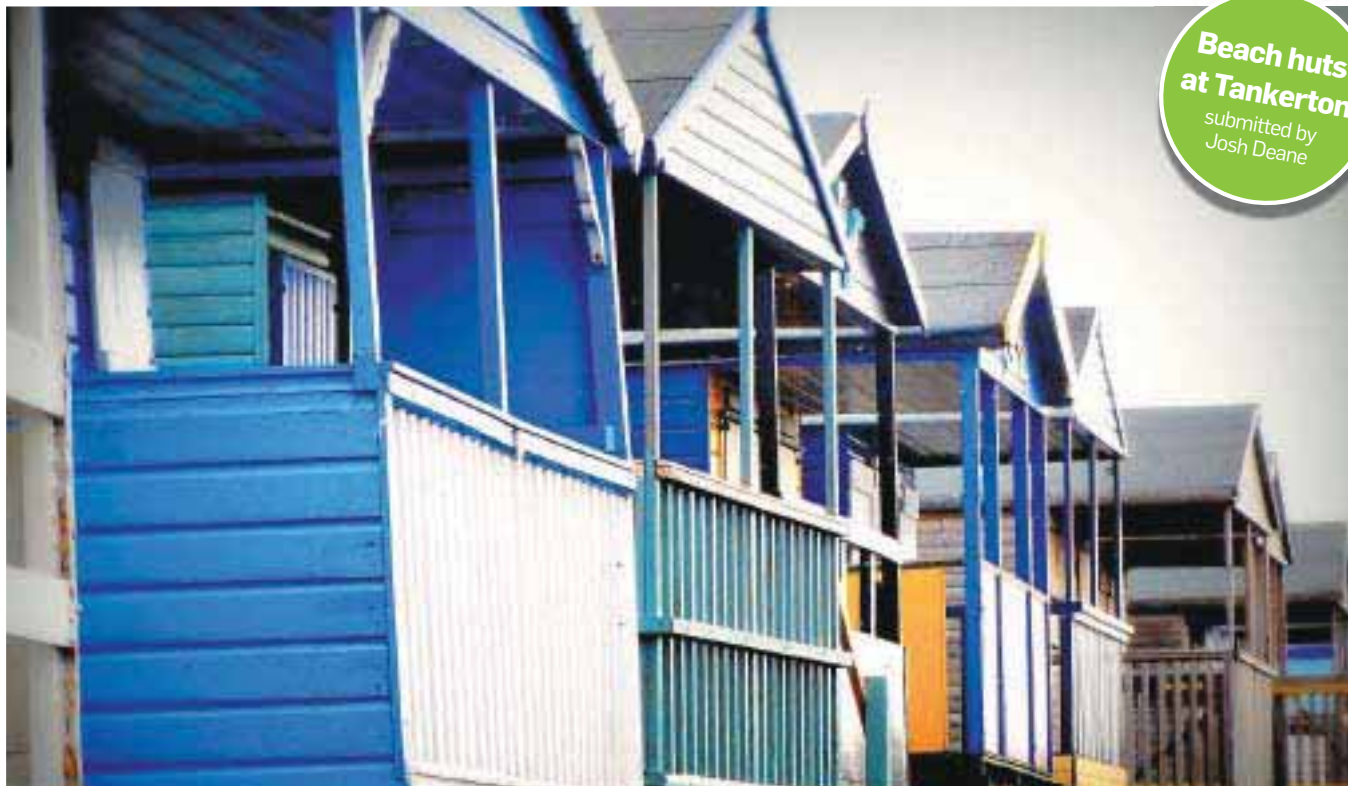
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Beach huts at Tankerton
submitted by
Josh Deane

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Stone did not fit the crime

APROPOS the item on page 20 of KoS July 10, I wonder if you have accessed the website you quote for Michael Stone.

This is nothing to do with the Michael Stone who is serving time for a murder he insists he did not commit, but merely a blurb for a hopeful author (whose grammar and spelling are not correct).

Mr Aidiniantz may believe that Michael Stone did not perpetrate the crime of which he was accused, but his website does not support this.

I also found that the police case for conviction was not strong enough and Michael Stone, though a thoroughly reprehensible character, does not deserve to be blamed and punished for something he did not do.

However, the case was so shocking that it seems everyone was happy for someone/anyone to take the blame while the possibility that a murderer was still on the loose was completely overlooked.

The activities of Levi Bellfield lead me to think him a much more probable suspect despite the fact that Kent Police have abandoned the case.

Sonia Jackson, by email

Teachers are out of touch

READING Cllr Ian Driver's comments concerning the lack of support given by the Government to the striking teachers last week (KoS Letters), what did he expect?

The Government will not allow workers at this present time, or any other, to hold the country to ransom.

This country is already in an awful state created by the Labour government. If we do not all tighten our belts, and I mean all, including the teachers, it will take years to get us back on our feet.

Strikes never improve any situation. Teachers are lucky in the respect they have been warned of a lower pension, many have not had this luxury.

Anyway, what makes teachers think they should be treated so different to other hard-working jobs such as

nurses, carers another or even hairdressers?

Teachers work shorter hours with far more weeks holiday than a lot of jobs and their training is no longer than many other jobs I know. They are already treated so different to other qualified professions.

They should just think themselves lucky they have a job plus a pension. Though it is now a little smaller, at least they have one – think of the thousands who lost their pensions.

Now the teachers are making all working families pay for childminders while they strike. The teachers should be made to pay for these expenses while the schools are closed.

Isn't the country in a bad enough state without people causing more problems.

If I was in Government I would sack the lot of them.

Mark Penny, Ramsgate

Flying in the face of facts

THERE'S an error in regard to your reporting of the Biggin Hill application for extended hours.

Specifically you state that the airport is looking at an extra two hours on weekdays.

This is wrong; the current allowed opening hours are 6.30am to 10pm with restrictions on arrivals in the first hour and departures in the last.

The application for weekdays is to lift the restrictions to allow arrivals in the first hour with limits set on the numbers and departures in the last hour.

Also, I'm surprised that no mention is being made during these stories of the Atkins report and the forecast extra traffic expected for the Games.

Jon Wallace, by email

PM not a man of the people

I AM not sure, but I don't think we have ever had a Prime Minister as out of touch with the people as David Cameron.

Because many thousands of people object to Mr Cameron giving their money to every corner of the world except this country.

Surely he must realise he is pushing us further and further into debt but, of course, that

won't effect him. He just doesn't seem to realise the awful state some people are getting into here, and as he has always had all that he needs and much more he just doesn't understand and never will.

Having a millionaire running this country has been an abject failure and it is about time his own MPs realised that and reined him in.

RE Tucker, Sheerness

MPs killed our democracy

FIRSTLY, this week Ed Miliband made a mockery of his party, Parliament and worst of all, the voters, by having a pseudo investigation into why they lost the last election.

Nothing to do with MPs like Jacqui Smith taking expenses, deliberately encouraging mass immigration stretching our economy, labour market and essential services, or getting us into more than a trillion pounds in debt then?

After each by-election defeat NuLabour said, 'Now

we're really going to listen', but as usual were too busy talking at us, to take any notice. They are so deluded they are not fit to govern.

Whatever did they think the investigation would come up with?

Secondly this week, we had the Tories calling for more people to volunteer as Conservative councillors.

A good job if you want to become a cipher, toeing the party line, doing as you're told and being told how to vote.

Being able to talk voluminously about democracy, while ignoring the electorate and their express wishes, is essential. Brass neck required!

After all this, our masters have the gall to talk of voter apathy and pretend they don't know why our political system has gone so wrong.

It's our MPs who have killed democracy.

Phil Granger, West Malling

Zero carbon is vital for us all

THE Campaign Against Climate Change is sponsoring a Zero Carbon Britain day on Saturday. Everyone can participate. Kent Green Party supports this initiative and suggests the public take action to reduce their carbon emissions to help the UK effort.

Here are some examples of useful actions:

- Support Kent's farmers' markets, to increase local employment and cut fuel wasted moving food large distances: www.kfmaa.org.uk
 - Increase insulation in lofts
 - Do not use air-conditioning, open the windows
 - Plant fruit trees in your garden and install some raised beds to grow vegetables
 - Sell the second car your home possesses and make do with one
 - Make some of your regular car journeys on foot or by bicycle
 - Invest in solar water heating or solar panels for your home
 - Change to holidays by train and ferry, not plane.
- There is enormous potential for homes, businesses and public sector organisations to save money by a vigorous effort to cut carbon emissions. Why pay out when you can save by cutting carbon?

Stuart Jeffery, chair of Kent Green Party

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My Money 24

Online this week at
www.mymoney24.co.uk:

It's worth checking out this tax demand

Q MY DAUGHTER received a letter from her tax office, saying she owed £593. I read your report about the reader who was excused paying tax arrears, so I wrote to her tax office.

HM Revenue & Customs replied, saying it dealt within permitted time limits with information she "or a relevant third party" supplied, so the tax is still due.

My argument is that my daughter had no idea she had not been taxed properly. How would the normal man or woman in the street know, unless they understood the tax system?

A OF COURSE, we all trust the Pay As You Earn system to get it more or less right. We submit a tax return declaring our income and claiming whatever allowances we can, and then the taxman tells our employer how much tax to collect from our pay. Once a year, the employer gives HMRC figures for every employees' pay and tax, and those figures are checked.

This is how it has been done for almost 70 years, and it is impossible, unreasonable and unfair to expect the public to understand the ins and outs of regulations that change every time the Chancellor gets to his feet and delivers a budget. Even HMRC staff keep up to date with only the bits of the system that involve their jobs. All I can tell from the information you sent me is that your daughter changed jobs in October, 2009, and by April, 2010, she had underpaid tax by £593. The taxman spotted this in December, 2010 and notified her.

Legally, the taxman is in the right. Even under the rules that allow him to write off arrears that have arisen because he himself overlooked some vital bit of information, he still has 12 months to demand the tax – and the clock does not even start ticking on those 12 months until the end of the tax year in which he received the information.

Only HMRC can explain how and why this tax debt arose. But it seems highly likely that the 'trigger' for the demand was the end-of-year pay and tax figures filed by her new employer in April, 2010, which makes the December, 2010, demand valid. Your daughter should still demand an explanation, though. If her employer simply got the sums wrong, then perhaps that employer might like to chip in towards the bill.

Q I HAVE read that compensation is available for people in pension schemes run by Equitable Life. Can you shed any light on this? I was with Equitable Life for 20 years and have a much-reduced pension.

TONY HETHERINGTON
MONEY CLINIC



A THE Government finally picked up the bill following the near collapse of Equitable Life in 2000. Compensation cheques started to be issued by the Treasury on June 30. The worst-hit 37,000 investors had with-profits policies that were turned into annuities – pensions for life. They will share £620 million in annual payments for as long as they live. Another 945,000 savers share £775m in one-off payments. But not every policyholder will benefit. More than 400,000 lost nothing, the Treasury says. And officials add that there is no need to claim. The company's records are intact, so if you are due a payment it will arrive automatically.

Q I HAVE £10,000 in a two-year fixed-rate bond that is ending. It yields 4pc. Where would be the best place for my money now? I have used my Isa allowance and I have no computer, so no access to internet accounts.

A IF YOU can invest for four years, Secure Trust Bank (08451 117 092) offers 4.4pc interest on £1,000 upwards. You can operate the account by telephone or post. But move quickly as this offer will close soon. Or to stick to a two-year term, see if you can use a computer belonging to a friend or at a library. The Post Office offers 3.96pc interest on its two-year online bond (www2.postoffice.co.uk/finance/savings-investments/online-bond).

Q I HAVE been paying off debts following my marriage breakdown. One company has threatened to take a charge on my home. Does this mean it could force me to sell?

A A CHARGE just means the debt is recorded at the Land Registry, and if you sell your home, the company is entitled to repayment of its debt. It does not mean the company can force you to sell.

■ If you have a personal-finance question, write to Tony Hetherington, MyMoney24, Prospect House, Rouen Road, Norwich NR1 1RE. Neither Tony nor the MyMoney24 team can enter into personal correspondence.

Customers in rush to save on their bills

THERE has been a surge in the number of people looking to change their energy contracts in the face of massive price rises announced by British Gas.

British Gas was the second of the so called Big Six energy suppliers to announce large gas and electricity price rises. It will raise prices by an average of 18pc for gas and 16pc for electricity from mid-August.

In June, Scottish Power announced a 19pc increase in the cost of gas and 10pc in electricity.

The British Gas announcement has seen a 2,000pc jump in visits to comparison site Confused.com as customers rush to save money, find the best deals and avoid the price hikes.

Confused chief marketing officer Mike Hoban said: "At a time when utility suppliers are reporting record profits and massive price rises, consumers are voting with their laptops and looking for the cheaper deals."

And Confused.com's energy



DON'T PAY THE PRICE: Switching contracts is one of the top ways to reduce energy bills

analyst Lisa Greenfield added:

"Struggling households will be dismayed by this news, and as British Gas is the largest supplier in the UK, many families will be hit hard."

In order to reduce bills, switching contracts is one of the top methods.

Using direct debit payments, installing cavity wall and loft

insulation, using an energy monitor and making sure lights are switched off when not being used, are also among the top pieces of advice.

The Big Six have often raised prices at about the same time, so the other four may well follow the lead of Scottish Power and British Gas in the coming months.

Decision to retain cheques welcomed

By Ed Foss

MyMoney 24 writer

THE decision to keep cheques alive and well beyond 2018, was roundly welcomed across the financial and charity industry this week.

Although the use of the cheque has declined massively as a percentage in recent years, there were still more than a billion issued in 2010.

So it was hardly surprising that a plan to possibly ditch cheques completely from 2018 had caused widespread consternation among individuals, charities, pressure groups and financial commentators.

But the Payments Council has now revealed the target for possible closure of the cheque clearing system in seven years' time has been cancelled.

Cheques will continue to be available to customers "for as long as they are needed", said the organisation.

Richard North, chairman of the Payments Council, said: "It's in the DNA of the Payments Council to consult and listen to all those people who actually make payments and use cheques."

"Listening to more than 600 stakeholder groups, working with the banks and following our appearance

before the Treasury Select Committee, we have concluded we should reassure customers that the cheque is staying."

"Over the last two years we have learnt a great deal about what is important to our many stakeholders, and we are really grateful to all of those groups and individuals who took the time to talk to us and help us reach this decision."

"We will use what we've learnt to keep improving existing systems, as well as introducing innovation, so that customers benefit from 21st century ways to pay. Innovation must be at the heart of what we do."

Nationwide Building Society had described the 2018 scrapping deadline as "arbitrary".

Gary Follis, Nationwide's head of policy, said: "This is a victory for the consumer and a common sense approach."

"Scrapping cheques would have had serious ramifications, not only for the elderly and most vulnerable in society, but also for small businesses and charities that rely on this payment method."

Andrew Tyrie MP, chairman of the Treasury select committee, said that the announcement was "bet-

ter late than never". He added: "We reopened the inquiry into the future of cheques because of deep public concern."

"We received hundreds of letters and emails from members of the public, charities and small businesses, who were overwhelmingly against plans to abolish the cheque."

"The decision to get rid of cheques was taken without having thought through the consequences for millions of people. That was unacceptable. At last the Payments Council is concentrating on the right thing: making the existing cheque system faster and cheaper to operate."

Banks must now stop discouraging customers from using cheques, added Mr Tyrie.

Which? chief executive Peter Viscary-Smith said the decision was "great news for the millions of people who regularly use cheques".

He added: "Whilst it may be more convenient for the banks to process other forms of payment, it's not so easy for their customers."

"To announce a timetable for the abolition of cheques before any suitable alternatives had been put in place was never a good idea. This is a victory for common sense."



INSIDE THIS WEEK

SOUTHERN Water has become the latest victim of the recession, having its credit rating downgraded and also facing the challenge of plugging a £24 million revenue gap. The utilities firm has suffered as a result of lower-than-expected growth across the South East and may now look to industry regulator Ofwat to help it bail itself out of a perilous position. But in a statement, Ofwat has suggested that Southern Water's shareholders, as opposed to its customers, should shoulder the multi-million-pound losses.

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County council bids for £40m state handout

Simon Robinson

simon.robinson@archant.co.uk

KENT County Council chiefs have submitted a £40 million east Kent funding application to the Government.

Council chiefs claimed the Expansion East Kent (ExEK) bid would create 5,000 new jobs, grow 500 east Kent businesses, lever £320 million of private-sector investment and unlock private-sector debt and equity finance if it was successful in gaining Regional Growth Fund (RGF) cash.

The authority's application outlines a number of aims, including: stimulating business to creating jobs for the poorly-skilled, young and long-term unemployed; growing an entrepreneurial economy; improving east Kent's accessibility to London and continental Europe; and retaining scientific research and development skills in east Kent.

KCC leader Paul Carter said: "Responding directly to business need, our RGF bid will place a particular emphasis on jobs in life science to retain a world-class scientific research-and-development base in east Kent and to develop the area as a leading location for renewable energy, clean-tech and environmental technologies.



BID: KCC bosses hopes to secure cash from the Government's funding pot

"Our RGF and Enterprise Zone bids represent a further phase of task force activity following the announcement in June that Pfizer would retain 350 jobs in Sandwich.

"ExEK now proposes an independent fund to invest in firms seeking to expand their busi-

nesses: from large investors to SMEs and business starts and spin-outs. It will provide finance to business for capital investment and support groups of businesses to invest in business-critical infrastructure, including rail improvements.

"The task force will continue to leave no stone unturned in identifying new and fresh opportunities for the Pfizer site and in building a stronger east Kent economy."

KCC's RGF bid has been submitted in the second round of the Government's £1.4 billion funding pot, with this window worth £900 million.

Bids will be considered by RGF chairman Michael Heseltine and his team using a checklist including criteria such as private-sector job creation, deliverability and commercial leverage.

Council bosses will hope Heseltine looks more favourably on the South East's bids during this round of funding applications – with Kent failing to secure a single penny of RGF funding in the first round.

Furthermore, Chelmsford-based e2v Technologies (UK) Ltd was the South East and East of England's sole successful bid.

The majority of the Government's £450 million wedge was given to northern England.

NETWORKING

People's Port bid on lunch agenda

DOVER People's Port chairman Neil Wiggins will give the main speech at a business networking lunch.

Mr Wiggins will give an update on his group's bid to the Government to buy the Port of Dover.

The campaign has received support from ferry companies, the Unite trade union, Dover and Deal MP Charlie Elphicke and Forces sweetheart Dame Vera Lynn.

A spokesman for the Thanet & East Kent and Dover District chambers of commerce said: "The Dover People's Port campaign promises to be one of the most significant developments in the history of British port management, with significant implications for Ramsgate, Whitstable, Belfast and other publicly-owned ports."

The People's Port is going head to head with a rival Dover Harbour Board campaign to manage the port.

The lunch takes place at the County Hotel, Dover, on Friday, July 29.

Tickets cost £15; phone 01843 609289 for more information.



IN PLACE: One of two giant substations

RENEWABLES

Offshore windfarm passes milestone

THE London Array offshore wind farm has taken a step closer to completion, with the project's two giant substations now in place.

The substations were winched into position with a floating crane.

The substations will transform the electricity generated by the wind turbines before exporting it, via four 50km export cables, to the new onshore substation at Cleve Hill, near Faversham, before being fed into the National Grid network.

London Array is being built some 20km off the coasts of Kent and Essex. The wind farm will be installed on a 245km² site and be built in two phases: phase one will cover 100km² and include 175 turbines with a combined capacity of 630MW.

The consortium – Dong Energy, E.ON and Masdar – plans to complete construction on the first phase by the end of 2012. If approved, the second phase will add enough capacity to bring the total to 1,000MW.

LEGISLATION

New focus for red-tape challenge

THE Government's regulation-stripping Red Tape Challenge is to turn its attention to the manufacturing industry.

SMEs working in the industry are being encouraged to highlight any unnecessary rules that hinder growth as well as positive pieces of legislation they encounter.

Government will use the feedback to decide which regulations should stay, which should be simplified, and which should be removed. If ministers want to keep burdensome regulations, they will have to make a strong case for them to stay.

The Manufacturing Advisory Service's South East programme manager David Caddle said Kent firms should get involved with the campaign.

"The Red Tape Challenge really is a rare opportunity for manufacturers to have their say on the regulations that affect them.

"That's why MAS South East is urging Kent manufacturers to take part and tell the Government what changes they would like to see."

Business Week

For more business news go to businessforkent.co.uk

ACQUISITION

Big interest in discount store

ADMINISTRATORS acting on behalf of discount department store TJ Hughes are in detailed discussions with more than 30 potential buyers.

Tom Jack and Simon Allport, from Ernst & Young, said retail consultants GA Europe had been appointed to advise on and assist the company, which has a branch in Maidstone, with the sale of both stock and stores.

A statement read: "We are already in discussions with more than 30 interested parties and are encouraged by the strong level of interest in the business and its portfolio of 57 stores.

"However, there are significant stock levels and we therefore must ensure we are also pursuing a strategy to trade this stock through the business, in case we cannot find buyers for all of the company's stores and employees. Promotional activity will therefore commence immediately in all TJ Hughes stores."

TJ Hughes employs more than 4,000 staff.

BUY-OUT

Company survives 'frantic' buy-out

McBRIDES Accountants were forced to practise what they preach after coming back from the brink of collapse.

The Sidcup firm, which offers advice to clients in areas such as business sales, mergers, acquisitions and management buy-outs, gained first-hand experience in each of these areas during a rocky six-year relationship with accounting and business-advice firm Vantis.

The companies merged in 2004 but split in June 2010 when Vantis went into administration with debts of more than £50 million.

That led to McBrides directors' decision to buy back their Kent office, return to their original trading name and go it alone once again.

Managing partner Nick Paterno said: "The buy-out was a frantic and exciting experience and it has armed us with a wealth of personal and practical knowledge.

"We're not just speaking theoretically nowadays, but from personal experience."

RETAIL

Shop is here to Entertain you

THE Entertainer toy company is set to open a Bluewater branch.

The firm, which offers a range of toys, games and gifts, will move into the superstore in October.

The Entertainer founder Gary Grant said: "There is nowhere better for a flagship store than Bluewater. It is a household name that attracts millions of people every year from a very large area.

"More than that, however, as brands, we share a very similar ethos, both being committed to providing a unique experience."

Retail leasing head Guy Thomas said: "Guest feedback indicated that toys and games was an area in which we could broaden our offer, and there is nobody better to do that than The Entertainer."

The Entertainer is the 17th brand to have committed to Bluewater this year, and follows the recent announcements that Ted Baker and Karen Millen are to upsize. WH Smith is also relocating to allow Forever 21 to open a store in spring 2012.

Water firm downgraded after shortfall in income



OPTIONS: Southern Water may apply to raise prices in a bid to beat the shortfall

rently providing a sewerage service to 29,000 fewer properties than predicted.

"We are now reviewing the financing of our business to decide the best way to address this.

"One option is to apply for an interim price review, but we have made no decision and it is too early to say what action we may or may not take.

"We need to talk with Ofwat, the Consumer Council for Water and, not least, customers before making any decision.

"The long-term interests of customers will be at the heart of any action we do take."

If the company decides to approach Ofwat for an interim price review – in an attempt to reduce the shortfall by charging its 2.3 million water and 4.4 million sewerage customers higher rates – it is almost

certain to be met with fierce opposition.

An Ofwat spokesman said: "Southern needs to take responsibility for its business and deliver for its customers."

With regard to the ratings slump, the spokesman said: "We expect companies to maintain strong investment grade ratings. For the industry as a whole, because of investment requirements of billions of pounds, BBB is not the right place for the sector.

"We set price limits that allow efficient, well-run companies to finance their functions and maintain a strong investment grade rating.

"If the company's investment rating slips further, then we have mechanisms in place to make sure customers are protected."

Southern Water is the seventh largest of 10 water and sewerage companies in England and Wales. It serves Kent, East and West Sussex, Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

Since October 2007, its parent company has been Greensands Holdings Limited, which is in turn owned by a consortium of specialist funds, including IIF International SW UK Investments Limited and UBS Global Asset Management UK Ltd.

Plan for the future to be ready to face the rising costs of care

PROPOSED reforms of the care system will still leave pensioners facing a hefty annual expense, a financial planner has warned.

Furley Page's Ruth Dolan welcomed economist Andrew Dilnot's stand-out recommendation to Government – that care costs be capped at £35,000, ensuring those who require residential care would not have to spend more than 30 per cent of their assets paying for it – but warned the suggested shake-up would still leave pensioners facing huge bills over an indefinite period.

"The cap will not include things like food, heating and general living expenses, which account for around half of a care-home bill," she said. "And of course, even with a cap in place, you'd still have to find up to £35,000 to pay for the care itself."

Dilnot, who is chairman of the Commission On Funding



Of Care And Support, also recommended a separate 'bed and board' limit of £10,000 per year, with the state assisting with the cost above that level. Hence the basic cost of living in a residential care home for 10 years could hit £100,000.

Dolan said sums like this made it important now more than ever for workers to start planning for their futures.

"Whether or not the Government acts on the commission's findings, it's important that you plan and prepare for old age," she said. "Life expectancy is increasing – the number of people living beyond 85 is expected to

double in 10 years – so you can't afford to just leave your savings and investments where they are and hope that they will be enough.

"There are options you have to consider and choices to be made about the type of care you receive and where. For example, the care home you choose may have higher fees, particularly in the South, which will eat into your assets even faster and could mean your family having to assist with top-up payments.

"If your assets have been depleted, you may even find yourself funded by the local authority, which could have a significant impact on choice.

"It's important you keep control of your finances and find an adviser specialising in funding care fees. The Society Of Later Life Advisers can point you in the right direction."

Phone Ruth Dolan on 01227 763939, or email her at rd@furleypage.co.uk.



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LEEDS CASTLE
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Business Week SPOTLIGHT: **Hospitality**

Hand Picked business shows company's got staying power

By **Simon Robinson**

simon.robinson@archant.co.uk

HOTELIER Julia Hands is celebrating her 10th year in business by looking back at the company's journey to date, as well as expanding her empire in the near future.

The Hand Picked Hotels chairman and chief executive set up her headquarters in Sevenoaks in 2001, buying the first 14 hotels in the same year. She added a further three properties in 2008.

Each hotel was chosen to reflect Hands's Hand Picked brand, with its emphasis on informality and a relaxed, unstuffy atmosphere.

The brand has gone on to pick up a string of awards, including the AA Hotel Group Of The Year title.

Hands, who was awarded an MBE for services to the hospitality industry in 2007, said: "We have created and developed an award-winning brand while retaining the individual history and character of each hotel and the tradition of hospitality, yet with the latest spa treatments, wi-fi and informality."

"During the past 10 years, we have built a loyal and ever-expanding following of Hand Picked guests who love



BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE: Julia Hands wants to expand her hotels business

staying in our hotels, backed by a first-class team across our hotels and at our headquarters in Sevenoaks. We are focusing on growing Hand Picked and are keen to build the collection to 20 hotels. We are looking for properties in strategic locations with the history and character to become part of Hand Picked."

Hands has spent more than £94 million restoring and developing her 17 hotels in the past decade, creating new spa/health-club facilities, conference facilities, the latest technology and additional bedrooms to stimulate growth in conferences and meetings, leisure, weddings and spa breaks.

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Learning is key at Coke bottling site

COCA-COLA Enterprises has opened a new £750,000 education centre at its site in Sidcup, Bexley.

The investment is part of the bottling company's drive to introduce young people to the world of business and enterprise, with the centre due to host more than 200 visits per year from more than 4,000 secondary school, college and university students.

Last week's launch was marked with an on-site open day attended by local councillors, businessmen, education groups and teachers.

Managing director Simon Baldry said: "We are committed to playing a positive role in the communities in which we operate, and one of the best ways to achieve this is by opening up our factory doors to support the work of educators."

"Our education centre offers students valuable insight into the world of business, allowing them to make connections between what they learn in the classroom and real-life modern manufacturing practices."

"Modules taught at the centre link directly to the national curriculum, and we have built excellent relationships with schools across the country."

Coca-Cola Enterprises' education centres, of which there are now four in the UK, contain purpose-built interactive classrooms run by registered teachers.

The one in Sidcup will play a key role in supplying soft drinks to the Olympic park in Stratford next year.

Subjects covered include business studies, science, ICT, engineering, and design and technology.

Old Bexley and Sidcup Conservative MP James Brokenshire was among the guests who attended the launch event.

He said: "Coca-Cola Enterprises' Sidcup facility plays a significant role in our community, and investing in this cutting edge education centre further demonstrates their commitment to both the area and also the manufacturing industry."

"The education centre will provide students from local schools and colleges with an insight into how industry operates, and the potential career opportunities manufacturing offers."

Apprenticeship drive to boost youth jobs

By Steve Knight

steve.knight@archant.co.uk

KENT County Council has drawn up a four-year plan aimed at boosting the number of apprentices and increasing awareness of the schemes among young people.

Just 3,500 businesses out of about 50,000 in the county currently employ an apprentice, with just six per cent of young people signed up to a scheme.

And with the 18-24-year-old age group making up nearly a third of all unemployment in Kent, the county council has decided to take action with a new strategy that includes business incentives and better awareness in schools.

Cllr Mike Hill, cabinet member for customer and communities, said: "We know apprenticeships can make a real difference to the careers of young people and the prosperity of local businesses, but we have to recognise and remove the obstacles preventing some people from discovering those benefits."

"We've set ourselves some ambitious targets but we are serious about making apprenticeships work in Kent."

As part of the new strategy KCC has introduced a requirement in all supplier contracts worth more than £1 million, in that at least one new apprenticeship must be offered per £1m spent on labour.

The first company signed up to the arrangement is Enterprise, which recently won a five-year contract to maintain Kent's roads. It means about 12 members of the workforce will be on a formal apprenticeship programme, and bosses say it is their intention to exceed this figure where practical.

The council says it also plans

to create a 'one-stop shop' for employers, offering advice and support to help them overcome the obstacles they face in taking on an apprentice.

Meanwhile, the authority will encourage firms to appoint apprentices in line with the academic year so school-leavers can go straight into employment. It will also work directly with schools to better promote apprenticeships as a career choice.

Chris Parish is an electrical engineer at Sittingbourne-based company Knauf.

He said: "Protecting our future commercial success so we can continue to provide employment for local people means we need to avoid future skills gaps in the local workforce."

"Apprenticeships help future-proof the needs of employers, and we'd strongly recommend others take advantage of the business benefits work-related learning can bring."

Apprenticeships last between one and four years with a salary of £105 per week, and result in a formal qualification and valuable experience of the workplace.

Before embarking on an apprenticeship, 14-16-year-olds have the opportunity to complete a vocational course and gain an industry-backed qualification. To date, more than 8,500 youngsters have already done so.

Visit the jobs and careers section at www.kent.gov.uk.



What is your business doing to help Keep Kent Working? Do you send employees on training courses to aid their personal development or run apprenticeship schemes? If you have a good news story email steve.knight@archant.co.uk or give him a call on 01303 817136.

MENTOR: Young people aged 18-24 make up 30 per cent of unemployment in Kent

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Canterbury named safest city for students by top university guide

THE Complete University Guide has named Canterbury the safest city for students in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Compiled from official police data, the 2012 guide aims to give a clear picture of the crime rates in the 25 towns and cities outside London with two or more universities.

Canterbury is home to the University of Kent and Canterbury Christ Church University, and also has a campus of the University for the Creative Arts

and Canterbury College.

The city's ranking is based on the cumulative rate of crimes most relevant to students – burglary, robbery and assault.

Bernard Kingston, founder of the Complete University Guide, said: "While the quality of tuition and the prospects for employment after graduation are key elements in choosing a university course, it is important not to overlook other aspects of the environment in

which the student will be living for three or more years."

Professor Alex Hughes, pro-vice-chancellor at the University of Kent, added: "We very much welcome this news as the safety and wellbeing of all our students on and off campus is extremely important to us."

Prof Hughes said the university also operates its own campus security service and provides night-time walking security escorts and free personal alarms to students.

Wind farm is inspiration for competition

STUDENTS from across the county battled it out to design a wind farm and win a trip to Denmark.

The challenge was part of Kent County Council's masterclass programme, which gives young people the chance to find out more about a range of vocational careers.

The youngsters had an imaginary budget of £6 million to design a small wind farm in the space of just four days, with teams from across the county competing against one another at Thanet College in Broadstairs and the Swale Skills Centre in Sittingbourne.

Cllr Sarah Hohler, cabinet member for education, learning and skills, said: "We are very proud of the vocational opportunities that now exist for young people in Kent."

"Wind energy will increasingly be a source of employment in the years to come as we are the country of choice for this industry."

"We have worked hard with the industry to make sure our young people are equipped with the right skills in the right place to take advantage of this."

"We want to be able to train the next generation of engineers, designers and renewable energy entrepreneurs."

The competition was organised by KCC with Dong Energy, Windpower Renewable Solutions and London Array – the wind farm 12 miles off the Kent coast in the Thames Estuary.

Phase one of the development is underway and involves installing 175 turbines, two off-



TEAM: Oakwood Grammar School students

shore substations and a new onshore substation at Cleve Hill, near Faversham. It will generate up to 630MW of power – enough for about 480,000 homes.

Project director Richard Rigg said: "We are delighted to be offering students the opportunity to learn more about wind energy."

"Offshore wind is a growing source of clean, renewable energy, and we are pleased to help students learn more about the industry and to encourage them to consider it as a possible future career."

Driving course launched ahead of Government theory test reforms

ADULT Education College Bexley has launched a new driving theory course ahead of changes to the way in which motor-ists are tested.

From September, the Driving Standards Agency will stop publishing the questions and answers to its theory test due to learners memorising them rather than understanding why they are important.

The Adult Education College is one of many centres up and down the country that

will now offer training to help people prepare for the driving examination.

Road safety minister Mike Penning said: "The driving theory test should help prepare drivers for real life on the road as good driving is not just about vehicle-handling skills but also about having the knowledge and understanding of safe driving theory."

"No longer publishing these questions and answers will mean successful candidates will

have to understand the theory rather than simply memorising answers."

"I believe this – along with the other changes we are making to the driving test regime – will lead to better drivers and safer roads."

Contact Adult Education College Bexley on 020 8303 2541 or visit www.adultedbexley.org for more information about the new 20-hour course, which can be taken over three days or 10 weeks of evening classes.

BUSINESS TRAINING SOLUTIONS

MidKent College's dedicated training consultancy provides a professional service that is dedicated to the needs of local companies. Training courses can be delivered in-company or in the first class facilities available at the College.

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- Business Administration
- Marketing
- Registry
- Reception Customer Service
- Divisional Administration

The programme will result in a Level 2 or Level 3 qualification providing an excellent gateway into the world of employment for 16 to 18 year olds.

For further details and an application form please visit Training Solutions on www.thanet.ac.uk or phone 01843 605052

We value the diversity of our workforce and welcome applications from all sectors of the community.

Closing Date for applications: 18 July 2011

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Acorns Day Services - Pembury
comprises a dedicated team which provides opportunities for people with learning disabilities to enjoy meaningful activities, stimulating projects and training for life skills. As a result of further reorganisation we require:

Day Services Support Worker (with music skills)
37.5 hours a week on a flexible basis - Monday to Friday. As part of the role, the successful candidate will be able to lead music sessions and assist in the Sensory Room. Hourly rate £6.56 but enhancements considered for those with appropriate experience and qualifications. Experience of working with people with complex needs and who present challenging behaviours is required.

Horticultural Support Worker
Horticultural / gardening experience required. 37.5 hours a week on a flexible basis - Monday to Friday. Hourly rate £6.56 but enhancements considered for those with appropriate experience and qualifications. Experience of working with people with complex needs and who present challenging behaviours is required.

Community Support Workers - MOST (Paddock Wood)
Full current driving licence and access to a vehicle for work purposes is essential. A mileage allowance is payable. Hourly rate from £7.26 - £7.70 dependent on experience and qualifications (includes \$0p per hour mobility enhancement).

Application forms for all positions above can be obtained from the HR Dept on 01892 822166 or reception@pepenbury.info or download from www.pepenbury.info

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Please contact: Paul Mills 01303 872289 for more information and an application form
Successful applicants will be required to undergo a CRB check

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To apply please telephone 01732 743901

Community Nursing Care Agency are now recruiting

Male & Female for specialist 1-1 community team supporting children and adults in the community with complex needs

Must have experience in working with people using the principles of positive behaviours support

For more information or to send your details please contact Zoe
zoe@communitynursingcareagency.co.uk
01233 619530

We are looking for the following two positions.

Supervising Social Worker

To supervise the work of a case file of foster carers on behalf of the agency

KEY SKILLS AND QUALIFICATIONS

The candidate must have DipSW or equivalent and registered with GSCC. Must have good communication and assessment skills and experience of working with looked after children and supervising foster carers. Also, to be able to prepare reports and child and foster carer assessments. Must be able to drive and have use of a car and to have basic IT skills.

Salary Scale: £30K to £35K depending on experience or qualifications
Full time 37.5 hours per week

Benefits: Car allowance, enhancement for Out of Hours, Work Mobile Phone and Laptop

Work base: Head Office Lydd, Romney Marsh, Kent
Satellite Office Tonbridge, Kent

Fostering Manager Designate

Supervision of Social Work and support staff

KEY SKILLS AND QUALIFICATIONS

The candidate must have CQSW or DipSW and two years post qualifying experience. Must also be registered with GSCC. Also good communication and assessment skills and experience of supervising social work staff and working with looked after children. Must also be able to prepare reports. Full Driving Licence and have good IT skills.

Salary Scale: £28K to £45K depending on experience or qualifications
Full time 37.5 hours per week

Benefits: Car allowance, enhancement for Out of Hours
Work base: Head Office Lydd, Romney Marsh, Kent

For both positions, please contact
David Burton 01797 322226 d.burton@credocare.co.uk or
June Stone 01797 322226 j.stone@credocare.co.uk

Porsche Centre Tonbridge

Vehicle Technician

We are looking to recruit an experienced and qualified Vehicle Technician to join our Service Team. To be considered for the role you must be apprentice trained and qualified to NVQ level 3 in Light Vehicle Mechanical, Maintenance & Repair or GNVQ equivalent. The ideal candidate will possess the ability to tackle the wide range of work that enters our workshop. You must be a team player with good communication skills and hold a full, clean driving licence. Most importantly, you must be committed to providing the very best in customer care. Porsche training will be given.

Receptionist (part-time)

We are currently looking for an enthusiastic and confident receptionist to work at our Porsche Centre in Tonbridge. As the first point of contact, you will need to have an excellent telephone manner, be of smart appearance and enjoy talking to customers and making them feel welcome. The ideal candidate must have outstanding communication, organisation and interpersonal skills with an excellent attention to detail and a flexible approach to work. The position is for Saturday 9am - 5pm.

If you would like to develop your career further with Porsche Centre Tonbridge please send your CV and cover letter by 22 July 2011 to Sharon Mallin at sharon.mallin@porschetonbridge.co.uk or Porsche Centre Tonbridge, Brook Farm, Five Oak Green Road, Tonbridge, Kent, TN11 0QN.

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Key responsibility will be for the day-to-day administration of our busy office. Some previous office experience would be preferred but is not essential. The successful applicant will be conversant with Microsoft Office & Excel.

Interested applicants should send their CV by e-mail (info@t-mex.com) or post to

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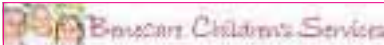
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and knowledge of motorsport will be an advantage, but not essential.

There will be a requirement to work some weekends to meet the needs of the business, especially major race meetings.

Please apply in writing, including a current CV and salary expectations, to:

Katie Dickens
Group Human Resources Officer
MotorSport Vision Centre, Brands Hatch Circuit,
Fawkham, Longfield Kent DA3 8NG

or email katie.dickens@motorsportvision.co.uk

www.brandshatch.co.uk

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Contact:
Miss S Spratley,
Pent Valley Technology
College,
Surrenden Road,
Folkestone, Kent. CT19 4ED.

Email: **samantha.spratley**
@pent-valley.kent.sch.uk

Tel: **01303 277161 ext 2218**
Fax: **01303 279342**

Closing Date:
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Interview Dates:
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Closing date for the above posts:
Wednesday 20th July 2011

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5xFull time and 1xPart time (25 hours)

We are looking for enthusiastic, customer-focused individuals with excellent customer service skills to work within the Customer Contact Team. If you want to be a part of Shepway District Council's drive to improve its service to customers this could be the opportunity you are looking for.

Working within our Customer Contact Team, we have a number of roles dealing with the administration and payment of Housing and Council Tax Benefit and the administration and collection of Council Tax. Your duties will include dealing with customers both face-to-face and over the telephone, processing work at the first point of contact wherever possible. The legislation is very complex and subject to almost continual change and this is one factor that makes the work so demanding, but equally very rewarding. You will be given intensive training to develop your knowledge in this challenging role.

As the public face of the Council, the service you provide will directly affect what our local residents think about us.

This is an exciting and challenging opportunity and a commitment for continuous improvement, a passion for customer service and a flexible approach are fundamental requirements of the role.

The post requires the following:

- 5 GCSE's at grade C or above, including Maths and English, or relevant experience.
- The ability to analyse and retain information.
- Good communication skills.
- Good basic office skills
- A commitment to delivering a customer-focused service

The closing date for completed application forms is:

Wednesday 20th July 2011

Interview date: To be confirmed

For application details, please visit www.shepway.gov.uk or to request an application pack, please contact email hrpartnership@doover.gov.uk or phone **01304 872799**



THANET COLLEGE
RAISING ASPIRATIONS - DEVELOPING SKILLS - DELIVERING QUALITY

We are seeking outstanding individuals to join our highly qualified, experienced and motivated teams, many of whom have come from industry. We offer our students the best learning and training experience and we have the following vacancies available:

FACILITIES TEAM LEADER

37 hours per week, all year
Salary: £19,659 - £23,040

To support the Head of Facilities in the running of the colleges Facilities / goods in Departments.

This role will provide guidance and information to staff regarding everyday operations and assist in the execution of college's facilities duties.

This is very much, a hands on role and can be very demanding at times, working closely with the college maintenance and support teams to ensure that continuity of service is maintained across the Facilities division.

DIVISIONAL ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANT

FIXED TERM FOR ONE YEAR TO COVER MATERNITY LEAVE

25 HOURS PER WEEK, 38 WEEKS PER YEAR
SALARY: £8,167 - £8,786

To support the Divisional administrator in the day to day running of the divisional administration office.

Closing date: 27 July 2011

For further details and to apply online please visit our website www.thanet.ac.uk and click on 'Vacancies'. Alternatively contact the HR Office, Thanet College, Ramsgate Road, Broadstairs, Kent, CT10 1PN or telephone our application line for an application pack on (01843) 605052

Job reference: PAMC002
Promoting Equality
Preventing Discrimination

THANET COLLEGE
RAISING ASPIRATIONS - DEVELOPING SKILLS - DELIVERING QUALITY

We are seeking outstanding individuals to join our highly qualified, experienced and motivated teams, many of whom have come from industry. We offer our students the best learning and training experience and we have the following vacancies available:

PROGRAMME AREA MANAGER CONSTRUCTION

37 hours per week, all year
Salary: £33,917 - £38,358

To be responsible for managing a programme area and to promote very high standards in a positive and supportive culture that aspires to be outstanding.

PROGRAMME LEADER ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGIES

37 hours per week, all year
Salary: £29,413 - £34,817

To deliver high quality teaching and learning, lead the effective co-ordination and development of programmes and take a lead role in the planning and delivery of specified programmes within the Programme Area.

LECTURER IN BRICKWORK

Salary: £25,589 - £30,205

To raise aspirations, develop skills and deliver quality across a range of courses in the Construction Area.

Closing date: 27 July 2011

For further details and to apply online please visit our website www.thanet.ac.uk and click on 'Vacancies'. Alternatively contact the HR Office, Thanet College, Ramsgate Road, Broadstairs, Kent, CT10 1PN or telephone our application line for an application pack on (01843) 605052

Job reference: PAMC001
Promoting Equality
Preventing Discrimination

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

PROW - Borough of Gravesham**KENT COUNTY COUNCIL****COMMONS ACT 2006 - SECTION 15(1)****NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR THE REGISTRATION OF LAND AS A VILLAGE GREEN**

Application has been made to the Registration Authority, Kent County Council, by Mrs. B. Field under section 15(1) of the Commons Act 2006 and in accordance with the Commons Registration (England) Regulations 2008. The application seeks the inclusion in the Register of Town and Village Greens of the land described in the Schedule below which is claimed to have qualified for registration as a Town or Village Green by virtue of the use of the land for the purposes of lawful sports and pastimes 'as of right' and without challenge by the landowner for a period of over 20 years.

If the Registration Authority is satisfied that the land described below qualifies for registration as a Town or Village Green, it will so register the land.

The application, which includes a plan of the land proposed for registration, may be inspected at the offices of Kent County Council at the address below. Please contact the Commons Registration Team on 01622 221628 to make an appointment prior to visiting to ensure that a member of the team is available to assist you.

Any person wishing to make representations regarding the application should send a written statement of the facts upon which the representation is based to Miss. Melanie McNeir at Kent County Council, either by post at the address below or by email to commons.villagegreens@kent.gov.uk, so as to arrive no later than Tuesday 30th August 2011. Please quote reference VGA630. Representations must include the name and postal address of the person making them and the nature of their interest (if any) in the land affected by the application. They must also be signed by the person making them and state the grounds on which they are made.

Please note that any representations that are to be taken into account by the Registration Authority in reaching a decision on the application cannot be treated as confidential and may come into the public domain during the processing of the application. Copies of any objections or representations received will be forwarded to the applicant for comment and may be disclosed to other interested parties, including the Planning Inspectorate where the case is referred to it for determination.

Description of the land claimed to have qualified for registration as a Village Green

An area of land of approximately 1.3 acres (0.5 hectares) in size forming part of Culverstone Green playing fields, situated adjacent to Mountfield Close and the Culverstone Community Centre at Culverstone Green.

PROW - District of Shepway**NOTICE OF THE INTENTION TO MAKE AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATH HL9 (PART) IN THE PARISH OF LYDD**

(PUBLIC FOOTPATH HL9 (PART))

(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984,
SECTION 14(1)

AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council intends to temporarily close Public Footpath HL9 (part) from Dungeness Road to the junction with Public Footpath HL8 (NGR TR 070 201) from 1st August 2011.

The path will be closed for a maximum of six months although it is expected the work will take an estimated 8 weeks.

The path is to be closed because works are planned on or near it and there is a likelihood of danger to users.

The alternative route is via Dungeness Road, Kerton Road and Public Footpath HL8.

For detailed enquiries please contact: Edward Denne
Tel: 01303 814534 (ext 205)

COMMONS ACT 2006 - SECTION 15(1)**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR THE REGISTRATION OF LAND AS A VILLAGE GREEN**

Application has been made to the Registration Authority, Kent County Council, by the Shepway Environment and Community Network under section 15(1) of the Commons Act 2006 and in accordance with the Commons Registration (England) Regulations 2008. The application seeks the inclusion in the Register of Town and Village Greens of the land described in the Schedule below which is claimed to have qualified for registration as a Town or Village Green by virtue of the use of the land for the purposes of lawful sports and pastimes 'as of right' and without challenge by the landowner for a period of over 20 years.

If the Registration Authority is satisfied that the land described below qualifies for registration as a Town or Village Green, it will so register the land.

The application, which includes a plan of the land proposed for registration, may be inspected at the offices of Kent County Council at the address below. Please contact the Commons Registration Team on 01622 221628 to make an appointment prior to visiting to ensure that a member of the team is available to assist you.

Any person wishing to make representations regarding the application should send a written statement of the facts upon which the representation is based to Miss. Melanie McNeir at Kent County Council, either by post at the address below or by email to commons.villagegreens@kent.gov.uk, so as to arrive no later than Tuesday 30th August 2011. Please quote reference VGA629. Representations must include the name and postal address of the person making them and the nature of their interest (if any) in the land affected by the application. They must also be signed by the person making them and state the grounds on which they are made.

Please note that any representations that are to be taken into account by the Registration Authority in reaching a decision on the application cannot be treated as confidential and may come into the public domain during the processing of the application. Copies of any objections or representations received will be forwarded to the applicant for comment and may be disclosed to other interested parties, including the Planning Inspectorate where the case is referred to it for determination.

Description of the land claimed to have qualified for registration as a Village Green

An area of land of approximately 3 acres (1.2 hectares) in size, known locally as Fisherman's Beach, situated between Public Footpath HB82 at the Hythe Ranges and the junction of West Parade and St. Leonard's Road.

Countryside Access Service
Kent County Council
Invicta House
County Hall
Maidstone
Kent
ME14 1XX

Dated: 17th July 2011

The above notice(s) may be provided in other formats

For further information, please contact
Kent Countryside Access Service,
on 0845 345 0210 (Mon-Fri 8am-8pm)
or visit www.kent.gov.uk/countrysideaccess



**Do not gamble on people
seeing your public notices,
call the Kent Public Notice team
on
01303 817044**

HIGHWAYS

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Canterbury

HARWICH STREET, WHITSTABLE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011	
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991	
Because of crane lifts and a new waste water connection, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Harwich Street, Whitstable, on or after 18 July 2011 for up to 3 months or until the works have been completed.	
The initial closure is planned for Monday 18 July 2011 for 1 day, as signposted on site.	
The next planned closure is Tuesday 16 August 2011 for 1 day, as signposted.	
A further closure is scheduled from 23 August 2011 for 2 weeks for a crane lift followed by a new wastewater connection.	
The road will be closed outside number 19A. There will be no access for through traffic between the junctions with Vale Road and Kent Street.	
The alternative route is via Canterbury Road, Forge Lane (westbound only) Saddleton Road, Grimshill Road and Harwich Street.	
WESTWOOD ROAD, KINGSTON (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011	
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991	
Because of duct installation works in the carriageway, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Westwood Road, Kingston, on or after 1 August 2011 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.	
The road will be closed in the vicinity of Westwood Cottage.	
There will be no access for through traffic between the junctions with Pett Bottom Road and Turk's Hill.	
The alternative route is via Pett Bottom Road, Woodgate and Pheasants Hall Road.	
HIGHWAYS - Borough of Dartford	
KENT COUNTY COUNCIL	
VARIOUS ROADS, DARTFORD (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011	
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991	
Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst an event is being held on the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Various Roads, Dartford as noted in schedule 1.	
The Order will become effective on 18th July 2011, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 12 months; the event is planned to take place 24th July 2011 and last 1 day between 08.30 – 11.30. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.	
Schedule 1	
Road Name:	Parsonage Lane, Darenth
Extent:	Entire Length
Diversion:	A225 Hawley Road, A225 Princes Road and B260 Green Street Green Road
Road Name:	Darenth Hill, Darenth
Extent:	Between Parsonagle Lane and Green Street Green Road
Diversion:	A225 Hawley Road, A225 Princes Road and B260 Green Street Green Road
Road Name:	Roman Villa Road, Darenth
Extent:	Entire Length
Diversion:	A225 Hawley Road, Parsonage Lane, Darenth Hill and B260 Green Street Green Road
Road Name:	Shrubbery Road, Horton Kirby and South Darenth
Extent:	Entire Length
Diversion:	A225 Hawley Road, Parsonage Lane, Darenth Hill and B260 Green Street Green Road
Road Name:	East Hill, Horton Kirby and South Darenth
Extent:	Between Shrubbery Road and Rabbits Road
Diversion:	A225 Hawley Road, Parsonage Lane, Darenth Hill and B260 Green Street Green Road
Road Name:	Skinny Lane, Horton Kirby and South Darenth
Extent:	Entire Length
Diversion:	A225 Hawley Road, Parsonage Lane, Darenth Hill and B260 Green Street Green Road
Road Name:	Rabbits Road, Horton Kirby and South Darenth
Extent:	Entire Length

Diversion:	A225 Hawley Road, Parsonage Lane, Darenth Hill and B260 Green Street Green Road
Road Name:	Canada Farm Road, Horton Kirby and South Darenth
Extent:	Between Rabbits Road and Green Street Green Road
Diversion:	A225 Hawley Road, Parsonage Lane, Darenth Hill and B260 Green Street Green Road
Road Name:	Gills Road, Horton Kirby and South Darenth
Extent:	Entire Length
Diversion:	A225 Hawley Road, Parsonage Lane, Darenth Hill and B260 Green Street Green Road
Road Name:	St Margarets Road, Darenth
Extent:	At its junction with Green Street Green Road
Diversion:	A225 Hawley Road, Parsonage Lane, Darenth Hill and B260 Green Street Green Road

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate Dartford Half Marathon.

For further information please contact Kent Highway Services on 08458 247 800.

HIGHWAYS - District of Dover

BRANCH STREET, DOVER (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011	
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991	
Because of the use of a mobile crane to complete works on the former Nat West Bank building, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Branch Street, Dover, on or after 1 August 2011 for up to 1 day or until the works have been completed.	
The road will be closed between the junctions with Bridge Street and Peter Street.	
There is no alternative route. The One-way Traffic Order in respect of Peter Street will be suspended to allow access.	

EAST CLIFF, DOVER (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011	
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991	
Because of duct installation works in the carriageway, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on East Cliff, Dover, on or after 5 August 2011 for up to 4 days or until the works have been completed.	
The road will be closed between numbers 48 & 54.	
There is no alternative route.	
There will be a suspension of the One-way Traffic Order in respect of East Cliff to allow access up to the point of closure.	

RICHBOROUGH ROAD LEVEL CROSSING, RICHBOROUGH (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011	
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991	
Because of maintenance and replacement works on the level crossing, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic at Richborough Road Level Crossing, Richborough.	
It is planned that the road will be closed from 0.30 am on Sunday 7 August 2011 until 4.00 am on 8 August 2011.	
The alternative route is via A256 Sandwich By-pass, A257 Sandwich Road, Cooper Street Drove and Richborough Road.	

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Gravesham

MILTON HALL ROAD, GRAVESEND - (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011	
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991	
Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council	

intends to make an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Milton Hall Road, Gravesend between Pine Avenue and number 25 Milton Hall Road.

The Order will become effective on 1st August 2011, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 2 weeks. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Pine Avenue, Old Road East and Milton Avenue.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate drainage improvement works.

PARK AVENUE, NORTHFLEET - (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011	
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991	
Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Park Avenue, Northfleet outside the Dover Road Community Primary School.	
The Order will become effective on 1st August 2011, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence 2nd August 2011 and last 1 day. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.	
The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Park Avenue, Vale Road, Perry Street and Victoria Road.	
The purpose of the closure is to facilitate delivery of a modular double classroom to Dover Road Community Primary School.	

PRIESTWOOD ROAD, MEOPHAM - (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011	
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991	
Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Priestwood Road, Meopham outside property 'Famescott'.	
The Order will become effective on 1st August 2011, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 4 days. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.	
The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Horns Oak Road and David Street.	
The purpose of the closure is to facilitate UK Power Network works.	

THE STREET, COBHAM - (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011	
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991	
Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on The Street, Cobham between Sole Street and Battle Street.	
The Order will become effective on 18th July 2011, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence 23rd July 2011 and last 2 days. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.	
The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Jeskyns Road, Henhurst Road, Valley Drive, Marlings Way, Vigilant Way, Thong Lane and Halfpence Lane.	
The purpose of the closure is to facilitate installation of a new electrical supply.	

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Maidstone

**(PROHIBITION OF STOPPING ON THE FOOTWAY OR VERGE)
(VARIATION NO 1) ORDER 2011**

Notice is hereby given that KENT COUNTY COUNCIL has made the above named Order under Sections 1 (1) and (2), 2 (1) to 3, 3 (2) and 4 and part IV of Schedule 9 section 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Paragraph 20 of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The effect of the Order will be to introduce prohibition of waiting or stopping on the Footway or Highway Verge on the following lengths of road:-

MAIDSTONE

Poplar Grove On both sides from the junction with A20 London Road to the junction with Hazelwood Drive

Maxwell Drive Entire length both sides

The Order was Sealed on 14th July 2011 and will come into force on 15th July 2011.

Full details are contained in the Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended and a Statement of the Councils reasons for making the Order may be examined at the Council Offices of Maidstone Borough Council, King Street, Maidstone, Kent and at Kent County Council, Sessions House, Maidstone during normal opening times.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or any of the provisions contained therein on the grounds that it is not within the powers of the relevant enabling Act or that any requirement of any such enabling Act or of any regulations made thereunder have not been complied with may within 6 weeks from the date on which the Order was made make application to the High Court for this purpose.

HIGHWAYS - District of Sevenoaks

BOTSOM LANE, WEST KINGSDOWN - (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011	
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991	
Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Botsom Lane, West Kingsdown for its entire length (physical road closure will be between properties Paladin and Rosine).	
The Order will become effective on 18th July 2011. It will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months. The restriction will be effective when required and when the appropriate signage is in place. The works are planned to last for 1 day.	
The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Maplescombe Lane, Donkey Lane, A20 Main Road/Gorse Hill and A20 London Road	
The purpose of the closure is to facilitate tree felling.	

CASTLE HILL, HARTLEY - (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011	
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991	
Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Castle Hill, Hartley between Steep Hill and Ash Road.	
The Order will become effective on 1st August 2011. It will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months. The restriction will be effective when required and when the appropriate signage is in place. The works are planned to last for 5 days.	
The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Ash Road, Hartley Road, Main Road, Fawkham Road and Castle Hill.	
The purpose of the closure is to facilitate kerbing to prevent flooding.	

PARK LANE, SEAL - (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011	
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991	

**For further information, please contact
Kent Highway Services,
on 08458 247 800 (local rate)
or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways**



HIGHWAYS

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Park Lane, Seal between Grove Road and Bitchet Green Road.

The Order will become effective on 18th July 2011. It will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months. The restriction will be effective when required and when the appropriate signage is in place. The works are planned to last for 4 months.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Grove Road, Hall Lane, Stone Street Road, Bitchet Green Road

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate installation of 1554M of water pipe.

WATERY LANE AND HONEYPOT LANE, SEVENOAKS - (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Watery Lane, Sevenoaks between the Railway Bridge and its junction with Honeypot Lane. The Kent County Council has made an Order restricting the use by vehicular eastbound traffic on Honeypot Lane, Kemsing Noah's Ark to Watery Lane.

The Order will become effective on 18th July 2011. It will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months. The restriction will be effective when required and when the appropriate signage is in place. The works are planned to last for 6 weeks.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via:

Clockwise - Honeypot Lane, Noahs Ark, St Edith's Road, High Street, Heaverham Road and Watery Lane.

Anti-Clockwise - Watery Lane, Heaverham Road, High Street, West End and Childsbridge Lane

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate repair to Railway Bridge.

HIGHWAYS - District of Shepway

CHURCH APPROACH & CHURCH LANE, NEW ROMNEY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of water mains renewal works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Church Approach & Church Lane, New Romney, on or after 1 August 2011 for up to 5 weeks, as shown below.

The roads will be closed in rolling sections from High Street to the junction with Wiles Avenue.

CHURCH APPROACH will be closed from 1 August 2011 for 1 week.

The alternative route is west on High Street, and Church Road

CHURCH LANE will be closed in phases from the junction with Church Road to the junction with Wiles Avenue

From 8 August for approximately 4 weeks.

The alternative route is via Church Road, The Churchlands, Marsh Crescent and Wiles Avenue.

The dates of the phases are approximate guidelines, and may vary subject to weather and ground conditions.

HIGHWAYS - District of Thanet

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL BROADLEY ROAD, THANET (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) ORDER 2011

Notice is hereby given that KENT COUNTY COUNCIL propose to make the above named Order under sections 1(1) and (2), 2(1) to (3) and 3(2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the Chief Officer of Police in accordance with Paragraph 20 of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The Order will have the following effect:-

BROADLEY ROAD Prohibition of driving of motor vehicles, from the junction with Dane Valley Road to the junction with St Peters Footpath.

Full details are contained in the draft Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the proposals and a statement of reasons for proposing to make the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at Ashford Highway Depot, Javelin Way, Henwood Industrial Estate, Ashford TN24 8AD, and at the Thanet Gateway Plus, Cecil Street, Margate.

If you wish to offer support for or object to the proposed Order you should send the grounds in writing to:

The Traffic Schemes & Member Highway Fund Manager, Kent Highway Services, Ashford Highway Depot, Javelin Way, Ashford, TN24 8AD; or by email to td.eastkent@kent.gov.uk by 12 noon on Monday 8 August 2011

CHARLOTTE STREET, BROADSTAIRS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of excavations for a new electricity supply to repair a fault, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Charlotte Street, Broadstairs, on or after 18 July 2011 for up to 5 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between junctions with High Street and John Street.

The alternative route is via B2052 High Street, A255 Queen's Road, York Avenue, Oscar Road, Victoria Parade and John Street.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (MANSTON ROAD, THANET) (30 MPH SPEED LIMIT) ORDER 2011

Notice is hereby given that KENT COUNTY COUNCIL has made the above named Order under sections 82(2), 83(2) and 84(1)(a) and (2) and Part IV of Schedule 9 to the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to that Act:

The effect of the order extends the 30 MPH speed limit in Manston Road, Thanet from the existing 30 MPH limit to the point 10 metres north-east of the boundary line of Rosemary Nursery.

This order was made on 14 July 2011 and will come into force on 1 September 2011.

Full details are contained in the Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended and a statement of the Council's reasons for making the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at Thanet District Council, Cecil Street, Margate and at Kent County Council, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone during normal opening times.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or any of the provisions contained therein on the grounds that it is not within the powers of the relevant enabling Act or that any requirements of such enabling Act or any regulations made thereunder have not been complied with may within 6 weeks from the date on which the Order was made make application to the High Court for this purpose.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Tunbridge Wells

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (B2063 GROVE HILL ROAD & MOUNT PLEASANT ROAD, TUNBRIDGE WELLS) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC & WAITING ORDER) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Grove Hill Road, from Grove Hill Gardens to Mount Pleasant Road on or after Sunday 24th July 2011 when required for a period of up to 6 weeks. There will be 24hr no parking between Grove Hill Gardens and Sutherland Road enforced for the duration of this order. Traffic will also be

prohibited on Mount Pleasant Road at the roundabout, junction with Vale Road and Grove Hill Road on or after Sunday 24th July 2011 for 5 weeks (Sunday working only) or until such works are complete.

The alternative route is via Vale Road, A26 London Road, A264 Church Road/Crescent Road/Calverley Road, B2063 Prospect Road/Grove Hill Road.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works that are necessary for carriageway reconditioning, resurfacing and drainage works. Should you require any further information about these works, their contact is Tony Carreck on 08458 247 800.

HIGHWAYS - Boroughs of Tunbridge Wells & Dartford

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

(VALE ROAD, STATION APPROACH, TUNBRIDGE WELLS & BOB DUNN WAY, DARTFORD) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) (SUSPENSION OF 24 HOUR NO PARKING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by southbound traffic on Vale Road after 20:00hrs and to suspend the 24 hour no parking on Station Approach on or Thursday 21st July 2011 when required for a period of up to 4 days or until such works are completed and traffic will be prohibited on Bob Dunn Way from Burnham Road to Marsh Street on or after Friday 5th August 2011 between 21:00hrs and 05:00hrs for a period of up to 4 days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for Vale Road is via High Street, A26 London Road and For Bob Dunn Way via Burnham Road, Victoria Road, Hythe Street, Home Gardens, A226 East Hill/The Brent/London Road, Cotton Lane.

The Film Office, Kent County Council apologise for any inconvenience caused which is due to filming taking place. Should you require any further information, the contact is Gabrielle Lindemann on 08458 247 800.

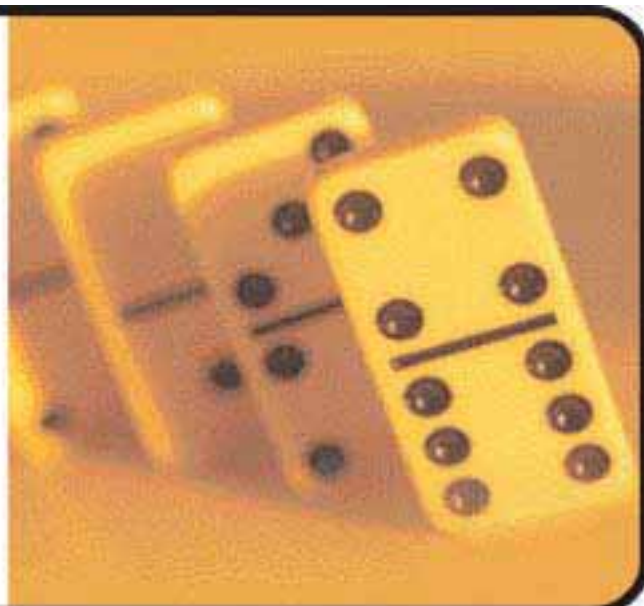
**Katherine Kerswell
Group Managing Director
Invicta House
County Hall,
Maidstone
Kent ME14 1XQ**

Dated 16th July 2011

**For further information, please contact
Kent Highway Services,
on 08458 247 800 (local rate)
or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways**



**Do not gamble on people
seeing your public notices,
call the Kent Public Notice
team on
01303 817044**



PLANNING

Town and Country Planning Acts

The Council is required to give notice of the following applications

11/01894/FULYork Cottage Major Yorks Road, Broadwater- Conversion of archive storage (previously garage) and construction of a pitched roof in order to create a 1-bedroom holiday let to the rear and side (LB) (CA)

11/01892/LBC York Cottage Major Yorks Road, Broadwater- Listed Building Consent - Conversion of archive storage (previously garage) and construction of a pitched roof in order to create a 1-bedroom holiday let to the rear and side (LB)

11/01894/LBC Dental Practice Golding House, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst- Listed Building Consent - Removal of lantern rooflight and upgrade of roof covering (LB)

11/01900/LBC TN4 29 Mount Ephraim, Culverden- Listed Building Consent: Relocate and improve existing ground floor kitchen to lower ground floor. Form new bar counter in existing kitchen area (LB)

11/01855/FUL Village Life The Stores, Goudhurst- Removal of redundant outbuildings and construction of a four bedroom dwelling (LB) (CA)

11/01883/HOUSE St Cuthberts Lodge Stream Lane, Hawkhurst- Extension and alterations to existing garage (LB) (CA)

11/01732/FULWeald House 10A High Street, Pantiles & St Marks- Change of use from Business Use (A2) to residential use and installation of new kitchen and bathroom (LB) (CA)

11/01733/LBC Weald House 10A High Street, Pantiles & St Marks- Listed Building Consent - Change of use from Business Use (A2) to residential use and installation of new kitchen and bathroom (LB)

11/01906/HOUSE 7 Vale Road Southborough, Southborough North- First floor extension (CA) ((DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROV) Affecting A Public Right of Way (CA) Affecting a Conservation Area (LB) Affecting a Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.

You may view these applications on our website (www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk), at the The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. We accept comments online, by email to planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.

You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.

Jim Kehoe
Head of Planning Services
Town Hall Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS

Dated: 16 July 2011



THE MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL
Town and Country Planning Act
Notice of Applications

MA/11/0827/S - LAND AT, LOVE LANE, HEADCORN, MAIDSTONE, KENT, TN27 9HJ - Erection of a 3 (no) polytunnels, potting shed, access track and handstanding. **Reason: 6**

MA/11/1005/N - ST FAITHS CHURCH, ST FAITHS STREET, MAIDSTONE, KENT - Replacement of tiles to the lower roof slope of the south elevation with slates. **Reason: 1, 2**

MA/11/1010/S - YMCA SPORTS CENTRE, MELROSE CLOSE, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME15 6ZE - Amendments to Community Centre and Car Park approved under MA/03/1147/02 (application for approval of reserved matters of siting, means of access, design, external appearance & landscaping pursuant to conditions 1, 2 & 3 of outline permission MA/03/1147 for a replacement community centre, junior football pitch, 83 dwellings, associated parking, access road & landscaping) being amendments to entrance canopy & entrance feature, revised position of a first floor window to south elevation & revisions to parking layout including knee guard rail and dwarf wall, and lighting to car parking areas (resubmission of MA/10/1126). **Reason: 6**

MA/11/0171/N - KENT MUSIC SCHOOL, ASTLEY HOUSE, HASTINGS ROAD, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME15 7SG - Variation of Condition 12 (in respect of car parking) of outline planning permission MA/10/0594 to read "there shall be a minimum of 1.2 spaces per dwelling" rather than the current requirement that reads "there shall be a minimum of 1.5 spaces per dwelling". **Reason: 6**

MA/11/0181/N - 42 - 44, EARL STREET, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 1PS - An application for listed building consent for creation of an opening in the first floor for installation of new hoists, and removal of an existing first floor rear window and replacement with a single outward opening door. **Reason: 3**

MA/11/1031/S - HAZELDENE, DEAN STREET, EAST FARLEIGH, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME15 0PS - Erection of a replacement two storey dwelling and detached double garage with the demolition of the existing dwelling and outbuildings. **Reason: 2**

MA/11/1043/N - DRYING LOFT, TURKEY COURT TURKEY MILL, ASHFORD ROAD, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 5PP - Insertion of additional windows and glazed panel in rear (east) elevation and replacement of doors with window panel in side (south) elevation. **Reason: 1**

MA/11/1044/N - DRYING LOFT, TURKEY COURT TURKEY MILL, ASHFORD ROAD, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 5PP - Listed building consent for insertion of additional windows and glazed panel in rear (East) elevation and replacement of doors with window panel in side (south) elevation. **Reason: 3**

Reasons for advertisement key:

- 1 - Applications affects the setting of a Listed Building.
- 2 - Application affects the setting of a Conservation Area.
- 3 - Application is for Listed Building Consent.
- 6 - Application is Major Development.



Copies of applications listed may be seen at Maidstone Gateway, Maidstone during office hours (Monday to Wednesday 8.30am to 5.30pm, Thursday 8.30am to 7pm, Friday 8.30am to 5.30pm and Saturday 9am to 1pm). Any representations should be made in writing to me by no later than **31st July 2011**, quoting the application number.

Rob Jarman, Head of Development Management, Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6JQ. **Dated:** 17th July 2011

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR
PLANNING PERMISSION
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING
(DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE)
(ENGLAND) ORDER 2010
NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 13

KCC/DA/0286/2011 – Proposed development at Pinden Quarry, Green Street Green Road, Dartford, Kent, DA2 8EB

Pinden Ltd are applying to Kent County Council for planning permission for the conversion of existing workshop/office building to provide extended office space, including changes to existing fenestration; construction of a replacement workshop extension to the north of the existing building; and provision of additional vehicle parking spaces.

You may view this application at Dartford Borough Council, Civic Centre, Home Gardens, Dartford, Kent, DA1 1DR.

DO/11/570 – Proposed development at Former Corporation Yard, Western Road, Deal, Kent, CT14 6PJ

E.H. Churley is applying to Kent County Council for planning permission for the erection of a light industrial building for the storage and sorting of non-ferrous metals.

You may view this application at Dover District Council, Council Offices, White Cliffs Business Park, Dover, Kent, CT16 3PJ.

KCC/TM/0293/2011 – Proposed development at Wrotham School, Borough Green Road, Wrotham, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 7RD

Wrotham School and Kent County Council Education Learning and Skills are applying to Kent County Council as County Planning Authority for planning permission for a **revised proposal** for replacement of temporary (Horsa Huts) teaching accommodation with the provision of a 2 storey building (originally granted planning permission under application TM/10/181) including a reduction in the floor space and consequential changes to foot print, floor plans, elevations and external works including re-arrangement of staff car parking.

You may view this application at Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4LZ.

Alternatively, details of all applications can be viewed on Kent County Council's website at www.kent.gov.uk/planning or at our offices in Maidstone at the address below during all reasonable office hours.

We accept comments online via our website, by email to planning.applications@kent.gov.uk or in writing to Planning Applications Group, Kent County Council, First Floor, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 3XX within 21 days from the date of this notice. Please quote the application reference number and note that comments may be drawn to the attention of Council Members, the applicant and other interested persons.

Sharon Thompson
Head of Planning
Applications Group
Kent County Council
Dated: 17 July 2011



To place your notice
here call the
Kent Public Notice
team on
01303 817044

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES
AND DEATHS

Including family announcements in partnership
with the Kent registration service

To register Births, Marriages and Deaths contact
the Kent registration service on 0845 824 7400

For advertising announcement enquiries
telephone Kent on Sunday 01303 817150

BIRTHS

AWOYERA

Jubril and Lola are
delighted to announce the
birth of their beautiful
daughter Ruby Ibitola
Ayomikun Awoyera, who
was born at 6.42 pm on
the 1st July, 2011, and
weighed 8lb 5oz.

BROWN

Debbie and Paul Brown
are thrilled to announce
the birth of their son
Toby Daniel Brown on
28th June, 2011. Big
brother Josh is thrilled at
Toby's arrival. Special
thanks to Charlene
Garrett and Lauren Wall
from Maidstone
Ambulance Service who
delivered baby safely.

CONCEIÇÃO

Amanda and Antonio are
proud to announce the
birth of their little baby
boy, and to introduce
Lara to her baby brother
Ethan, born 13th March,
2011, at 0707am
weighing 8lb 14oz at
Ashford's William Harvey
Hospital.

GRANT

Welcome to the world
Cherry Maureen Grant, a
beautiful baby daughter
for Honey and Steve.

OWENS

Maxwell Shane Owens
born on 3rd July, 2011,
weighing 6lb 1oz. Son to
Claire Oram and Shane
Owens and brother to
Dylan, in Ashford.

RENIHAN BURKE

May and Kieran of Deal
are delighted to announce
the birth of their
beautiful daughter
Beatrice Niamh Renihan
Burke, born at home on
15th June, 2011,
weighing 8lb 14oz.

ROBERTS

Kayleigh and Zaine of
Deal are delighted to
announce the birth of
their son Freddie James

Roberts, born on
27th June, 2011, at
QEQM Hospital,
Margate, weighing
8lb and half ounce. You
are the miracle who we
will love and treasure
forever.

SKERRETT

Noah Charles Skerrett
born Friday 1st July,
2011, at Tunbridge Wells
Hospital, Pembury. Son to
Joanna and David. You
are our little miracle and
we love you very much.

WATSON

Shane and Louise
celebrate the birth of
their son Jacob Shane
Watson, who was born on
26th June, 2011. Lots of
love and cuddles from Big
Sister Alisha. xxx

WILKINSON

Gavin and Kelly and big
sister Miley are delighted
to announce the arrival of
their daughter Georgia
Brooke Wilkinson, who
was born on the 3rd June,
2011 - the same day as
her Raa Raa.

DEATHS

MURPHY

James Murphy died
peacefully on 11th July,
2011. Funeral service
at Vinters Park
Crematorium at 10.15am
on 19th July, 2011.
Dearly loved husband,
father, grandad and great
grandad - he will be in
our hearts forever. Family
flowers only but
donations may be made
to The Heart of Kent
Hospice, Preston Hall,
Aylesford.

WARNER

Kathleen Ellen Warner
sadly passed away on 3rd
July, 2011. Lovely mum
and nan who will be
missed dearly and never
forgotten. Forever in our
hearts until we meet
again. xxxxx

PREMISES/ GOODS LICENCES

GOODS VEHICLE
OPERATOR'S LICENCE

Julian Blackborrow trading as Linden Automotive, of Leigh Green Industrial Estate, Appledore Road, Tenterden, Kent TN30 7DE, is applying for a licence to use: Leigh Green Industrial Estate, Appledore Road, Tenterden, Kent TN30 7DE, as an operating centre for 2 goods vehicles and 2 trailers.

Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NF, stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representatives must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice.

A Guide to making representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's Office.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND
CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004

APPROVED PREMISES FOR
CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant a renewal of an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: **The Barnyard, Gore Farm, Oak Lane, Upchurch**
Applicant: **Miss Santosh Mall**

The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the renewal of the grant of approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Giles Adey
Head of Registration,
Regulatory Services
First Floor, Invicta House,
Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1X



MARRIAGE LICENCES

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND
CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004

APPROVED PREMISES FOR
CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant a renewal of an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: **Hadlow Manor Hotel, Goose Green, Hadlow**
Applicant: **Miss Natalie Hayward**

The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the renewal of the grant of approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Giles Adey
Head of Registration,
Regulatory Services
First Floor, Invicta House,
Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1X



KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND
CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004

APPROVED PREMISES FOR
CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant a renewal of an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: **East Quay Shellfish, The East Quay, The Harbour, Whitstable**
Applicant: **Mr Jamie Robb**

The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the renewal of the grant of approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Giles Adey
Head of Registration,
Regulatory Services
First Floor, Invicta House,
Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1X





WILD FOR WILDLIFE

Get close to a range of wonderful UK animals on a visit to Wildwood

SEE PAGE 55



FESTIVAL FINALE

Exhibition focuses on a deadly stretch of shifting sands

SEE PAGE 57

Kent Weekend



Celebrating the fruits of the sea

Whitstable buzzes with the sights and sounds of the annual oyster festival

**TURN TO
PAGE 49**

PLUS: New films tackle the disturbing trend of teenage pregnancy - **talking point p44** Now is your chance to own a unique slice of literary history - **Kent's finest property of the week p58** Peugeot ready to launch revitalised 308 - **driving p69**



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THE INTERVIEW

Brian Croucher

Write move for Blake's 7 star

Nick Ames talks to Brian Croucher, former Blake's 7 and EastEnders star, who now runs a forum that gives up-and-coming writers the chance to compare work and exchange ideas

ACTOR and director Brian Croucher has set up a group to encourage new writing in Kent. Meetings are held at Deal's Astor Theatre, where the authors can read one another's work and exchange ideas on characters and plot.

The sessions are new, but already a wide range of people has been attracted.

The first get-together saw participation from two already-established BBC radio writers, a member of the Kent Youth Theatre, an American from Savannah and an Ashford man who worked on a building site.

Brian, who has starred in TV shows EastEnders and memorably as the eyepatch-wearing Space Commander Travis, who also had a bionic arm with gun attached, in the cult classic series Blake's 7, set up his sessions in response to what he felt was a dearth of opportunities for writers in the county.

"Writing is a solitary business," he said. "But if you live in London, there are lots of outlets – that is where the theatres and other productions in TV and radio are.

"In my time in the theatre it is the writers I respect the most – what comes out of their head is the most important thing. If they put together the right words, then an actor can put them across in an entertaining, possibly dangerous, way.

"In my experience, most writers start off writing for the theatre, then of course they may

move on to TV or film. The playwrights' forum I have set up enables people to get together and discuss their work – maybe a character is not working or isn't developing properly and they need some ideas. So by talking and discussing what they are trying to achieve, the participants can help one another.

"I have been an actor for 40 years, but even when I was at drama school I was interested in directing – which I actually find more satisfying – and have recently been involved in a project at a London theatre where five new 20-minute plays are staged every quarter. Maybe that is something we could introduce to the Astor."

Brian said he chose the Astor as Deal had quite a reputation for having an artistic community. "There are some writers and musicians around, so that's why I thought it was a good choice," he said.

Brian has wealth of TV experience, with appearances in Grange Hill, Dr Who, Edge Of Darkness, The Professionals, Minder, Dempsey And Makepeace and Fool's Gold, a TV movie about the Brinks Mat robbery. He is possibly best known for his role as fiery hardman Ted Hills in EastEnders, as well, of course, as Travis.

He chose to embark on a career in acting while serving a short spell at Her Majesty's pleasure for a driving offence.

He said: "I realised I didn't want to be a rebel without a cause, so I started evening classes and then went to drama school. I started off studying to be a stage manager, then I went



PASSIONATE: Brian Croucher (pictured, inset, as Space Commander Travis in Blake's 7), is hoping that his years of experience in TV and film can inspire the next generation of writers who visit his new forum

on to the acting course. I have always been interested in stories.

"Everything you watch has a story. It can start with 'Once upon a time' and end with 'They all lived happily ever after', or it can just start with a car coming out of the mist. But there is still the narrative there, the journey – that is what interests me."

One of his first big roles was in the play Saved, written by Edward Bond and first put on at the Royal Court Theatre in November 1965. Set in London during the 1960s, it was a controversial production due largely to a scene involving the stoning of a baby.

Brian took over the role of Travis in the BBC science fiction series from another actor.

"That didn't worry me," he said. "After all, there have been five or six Tarzans, from

Johnny Weismuller onwards.

Travis's sole mission was to kill the title character, Blake. When Brian went back into stage-acting with the Royal Shakespeare Company, Travis was written out.

"In my last scene, when my character was killed off, I was wearing this tight jumpsuit which was very uncomfortable and I'd been waiting around all day. I also had on a Peter Pan-style flying belt and the zipper on it broke and they had to use a pair of pliers, just a few inches from a tender spot.

"When I was supposed to plunge to my death I had to shout something. I think I might have said something about the director."

• If you're interested in joining Brian Croucher's writing group, you can email him via info@theastor.org.

one car, four days, and a touch of...



On **Thursday 29th September 2011**, we're off to the South of France for more fundraising mayhem in **Martha Trust's 2011 car challenge!**

You'll need a car costing **no more than £100** with tax, insurance and a valid MOT.

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visit www.marthatrust.org.uk/monte-carlo-madness

* By 31st August 2011 including £400 deposit required
by 31st July 2011 to secure your place.
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TALKING POINT

Teenage Pregnancy

TEEN pregnancy has been a problem plaguing parts of Kent for years and, while still a step away from an epidemic, it has become a major concern for authorities.

Despite a fall in numbers nationally, Britain remains the teenage pregnancy capital of Western Europe and a handful of areas in this county are the worst offenders, with some boasting the highest rates in the UK.

The latest Office for National Statistics data for 2009 showed a rate of 38.3 conceptions per 1,000 women aged 15-17 across the country.

In Kent, the rate was below average at 34.7, but broken down into districts, worrying results were revealed.

In Thanet the rate of conceptions per 1,000 15 to 17-year-old women was 53.1; in Swale 47.3; in Shepway 44; and Dover 41.1.

Although this showed a small drop from previous years, it fell far short of the target set out by the previous Labour government in 1999 which looked to have under-18 pregnancy rates halved by 2010.

Health experts said there was strong evidence to suggest teen pregnancy was linked to poverty and deprivation, which was highlighted in Kent where the highest rates were seen in the most deprived areas.

"We know also that teenage parents are far more likely to have children who become teenage parents themselves," said Hilary Pannack, chief executive of national teen pregnancy charity Straight Talking, which works with authorities and schools across the country.

"However, we do not know how many private abortions or early miscarriages are taking place.

"There is a big difference between teenage pregnancy and parenthood. Teenage pregnancy can be linked to a one-off mistake, alcohol-related behaviour or sexual abuse.

"Teenage parenthood on the other hand can mostly be attributed to low self-esteem and low sense of achievement.

"We know that, for instance, girls are more likely to become parents on the point of leaving school as they see parenthood as a 'career choice'."

Mrs Pannack told Archant KoS Media that research carried out by the charity also suggested a link between domestic violence and teenage pregnancy.

"Rates have begun to come down slightly although considering we still have the highest rate of teenage pregnancy in Western Europe, we need to do far more," she said.

"The emphasis has been on encouraging schools to deliver quality Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) and to persuade the Government to make SRE statutory, but this has been an uphill struggle.

"At Straight Talking we believe that, while SRE is important, it's also vitally important to give young people a reason why not to engage in early parenthood as well as how not to get a girl pregnant."

She added: "Education is helpful and too many of our young people disengage from school. Forty per cent of teenage mothers leave school without any qualifications at all.

"There is a famous quote which says that ambition in the best contraception but it is also true that high achieving young people can display different destructive behaviour, so a balance has to be found.

"Making sure all schools reach their targets is not the whole answer. There are many other factors which need to be addressed."

She added that the power of peer education should not be underestimated, where children



Areas of Kent have some of the highest rates of teenage pregnancy in the UK. Reporter MARIJKE COX talks to professionals to find out what is being done to tackle the problem, and discovers the long-lasting damaging effects suffered by young mums

BREAKING CYCLE OF TEENAGE PREGNANCY

“““

Teenagers are less likely to seek help. Unplanned pregnancy can be devastating for teenagers and have a real impact on their future health, well-being and finances

DIRECTOR OF HEALTH IMPROVEMENT FOR KENT,
ANDREW SCOTT-CLARK

learn sex education from the playground and often get the wrong information.

A conference was held by Medway Public Health Directorate last week as part of the annual Get Sorted roadshow tackling teen pregnancy. This year's campaign is working in areas of high deprivation and looking at issues such as teenage pregnancy and substance misuse. The event at Hazlitt Art Centre in Maidstone brought together experts to discuss the causes of teenage pregnancy, reducing inequalities, and improving access to contraceptive services.

They looked at delivering effective SRE in primary and secondary schools and further education colleges; working with young parents to prevent a second unplanned pregnancy; and addressing underlying risk factors such as low self-esteem and educational attainment.

Plans to integrate teenage pregnancy strategies into local performance management structures as well as pooling budgets to deliver a streamlined approach to reducing rates were also discussed.

In east Kent an NHS drive to reduce teenage pregnancy has been launched with an online campaign designed and created by four students from Thanet College. Thanet has one of the

highest rates of teen conception in the UK.

Three short YouTube films, called Prospectus, Games, and Hindrance, tackle the issue of how unplanned pregnancies can impact a young person's future, their finances and their lifestyle.

A Facebook page called Future, Money, Lifestyle was also created as part of the campaign.

Andrew Scott-Clark, director of health improvement for Kent, said: "Teenage conception is a health problem as research has shown that it can lead to premature birth and low birth weight, as well as other issues.

"Teenagers are also less likely to seek help when they are pregnant, often leaving it too late to have routine scans and tests. While not all teenage pregnancy is unwelcome, unplanned pregnancy can be devastating for teenagers and can have a real impact on their future health, well-being and finances. These films tackle the issue using humour and creativity to get the safe sex message across."

NHS communications manager, Jo Treharne, said it was important the students came up with their own ideas for the films as they were focusing on people their own age. "They know what works. The films show a lot of creativity – hopefully they will get the point across, too."

YOUNG MUM:

While not all teenage pregnancies prove to be unwelcome, many cause harm and suffering

HAVE YOUR SAY...

We would like to hear your views on this, or any other story.

Write to:
KOS Media,
Apple Barn,
Smeeth TN25
Telephone:
01303 817000
Email:
editorial@
kosmedia.co.uk
Online:
kentnews.co.uk

KENT REMEMBERED

Pictures: MUSEUM OF THE GREAT WAR



FINAL JOURNEY: The last sight thousands of British troops saw of home before moving on to camp in France (above) was Folkestone harbour, as they embarked upon their fateful journey to the trenches

How the French see our role in World War One

By Nick Ames

nick.ames@archant.co.uk

A CAMPAIGN is currently under way to commemorate the role played by Folkestone in World War One.

The vast majority of British Army soldiers who fought in the trenches of northern France and Belgium from 1914-18 embarked from the port after arriving in the town at the now disused station alongside the harbour.

Many were also trained at what is now Shorncliffe Barracks and the Step Short campaign – named after the order used to march the men to the waiting ships – is looking to honour their memory.

Not all the passengers were soldiers, but most were fighting men – and estimates suggest that while 10 million left for the Western Front, two million fewer return journeys were made. For many, the sights and sounds of Folkestone harbour were the last they saw of home.

The British Army's role in the war against the Kaiser's Germany and its allies Austria Hungary and Turkey is well documented, but in the main the accounts are by British writers and historians.

Now Frenchman Frederick Hadley has put to paper his views on those men who left the shores of Kent nearly a century ago.

Mr Hadley is curator at the Museum of the Great War on The Somme in the small town of Peronne, and his work is entitled The British Army in the Great War.

It focuses on how the Army was recruited, its structure, command and the troops from what was then the British Empire.



NOVEL: French author Frederick Hadley's book looks at how the British Army was recruited and organised during the Great War

The book starts with details familiar to most people with an interest in British military history, but possibly ones that are not so obvious to the French readers at which it is primarily aimed.

Mr Hadley explains how units such as the East Kent Regiment were recruited locally, and provides a map to show the British Isles and how they are broken down into recruitment areas.

In the conclusion the author offers up his own opinions of the way the conflict is remembered in today's Britain.

Mr Hadley writes: "Britain still places great importance on remembering its dead, with a sense of melancholy for British greatness and for a way of life remembered as less complicated. The idea of sacrifice, something so central during the war, continues to represent the war: the image of the young volunteer killed at the front with his Pals Battalion still weighs on Remembrance.

"This intense feeling of loss arouses strong reactions. On a regular basis, particularly British controversies flare up over butcher generals, over why the war had to be fought, over its links with the Second World War and the role of 1914-18 in the decline of Great Britain.

"As time passes the legacy of the Great War does not diminish, on the contrary. Glorious or tragic, the Great War of the British Army marks a major turning point in British history."

When Folkestone remembers its war dead at the memorial now sited at the spot from which many soldiers of the Great War marched to the waiting ships, many French visitors gather with flags and other tributes. This book is an interesting look at how our cross-Channel ally now sees the British Expeditionary Force – once labeled "contemptible" by a disdainful Kaiser.

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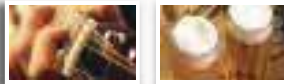
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FOOD & DRINK

Flavours of Kent

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Pie's the limit for city boy with East End in his veins

A SEVER more Londoners leave the capital to fill the county of Kent, it is inevitable that the capital's traditions will come with them. A landlord of more than 35 years, John Baker is one such publican who has brought a taste of his old East End home to the Garden of England.

The 57-year-old landlord at The Ship Inn in Ospringe has been in the business for most of his life and comes from a family steeped in publican history.

He said: "I have worked in pubs since the age of 16, just doing bottling up before finally getting behind the bar. My older sisters all had pubs in places like the King's Road in Chelsea, Holborn and Bermondsey."

John does not hide his love for his home turf, with pictures of his beloved West Ham United FC scattered around the bar.

He said: "Of course, when you originate in the East End like me, I'm a West Ham supporter through and through – cut me in half and I am claret and blue."

But it is not the football connections that keep his punters coming back for more, it is the success of his restaurant venture.

On the first Wednesday of every month, John orders in traditional East End pie, mash and liquor to serve his guests.

Having taken over The Ship in 1987, John has come up with a number of ways to keep his regulars coming back, but this new idea has really taken off.

He said: "It is 100 per cent quality mince meat, in a pastry which is served with mashed potato and the famous liquor. The liquor is based on an eel sauce."

"The East Londoners used to boil the eels and use the juice mixed with cornflour and parsley, and pour it over the meat pie and mash. It still tastes as good as it always did."

The pies are delivered the day before pie-and-mash night from one of the famous Manzes shops in the capital. That way the pies remain fresh and ready for the diners.

Joe Bill meets John Baker, who has gone back to his roots and brought a London favourite to diners



RAISE A GLASS: John Baker, right, has been running The Ship Inn in Ospringe since 1987 and has built the pub up to become one of the most popular in the area

John said: "Obviously I have some contacts in the area and I knew the pie shops up there, so when I approached them and asked if they would supply it they agreed."

The landlord offers his diners a deal of pie, mash and liquor plus a drink of choice for £6.50.

He said: "It has been very busy and has proved to be very popular, so much so that customers have got to book up at least a week in advance."

"People that have moved from London that have roots there have grown up on it. There are

also not that many outlets in Kent that do it at the quality we do. And I think that's why they come here. I never have I pie left over, and if I did I would eat it myself."

The Ship Inn offers hungry punters a good range of food from the general menu as well as a seasonal specials board. And it remains progressive in terms of food, offering a gluten-free optional menu.

The award-winning pub garden and stage mean that people travelling along the A2 often stop off for a quick bite to eat.

John said: "I really think it's a bit of a hidden gem sometimes because, as it lies on the A2, people drive by and don't realise how nice it is inside."

"I keep it clean and use my flowers and garden to invite people in – and the quotes I always get are 'My goodness, we never knew how nice it was in here'."

Complete with Second World War pillbox on the corner of the building, The Ship Inn is the last remaining pub in the village on the outskirts of Faversham.

It is no coincidence that this has a lot to do with the landlord offering alternative options just like that of the pie-and-mash night.

But John says he will continue to keep his feet on the ground and maintain the quality of his thriving venture.

"It has been so busy recently that I have considered making the night every two weeks rather than every month, but I don't want to flood it and move too fast," he said.

"It is good now, so let's just see where it goes from here."

Judging from what we've seen so far, John is not talking pie in the sky.



New Nepalese on the block wins early convert

GURKHA Restaurant advertises itself as the new taste in town, and from my first mouthful of its delicious food I was a convert.

My guest and I managed to claim the last table on a busy Saturday night, waiting just five minutes after walking in from the street.

We were greeted by friendly staff in this light and modern eatery, and seated in the middle of a modern and rather small – but somehow spacious – room.

Our waitress brought us prawn crackers while we perused the menu, recommending two speciality starters as worth a try. Eager to experience real Nepalese cuisine, we were happy to follow her suggestion.

Momo, or Nepali chicken dumplings (£2.95), with a tomato and sesame seed chutney, were light and tasty, but

RESTAURANT Review



the dish of the day was choyla (£3.50).

Chargrilled spring lamb, tossed with herbs, olive oil and fenugreek seed, it may not sound like much, but it almost caused a row as I kept trying to steal more and more from my guest's plate – and I'm a confirmed lamb-hater.

For the main course I chose mach johl (£9.90), an unusual but very tasty monkfish curry, while my guest opted for king prawn reshmi makhani (£5.70). This was a mild curry not unlike a korma, but so much more interesting than the staple Indian dish.

Both our choices were delicious and went down very nicely, accompanied by bhenta tarkari, sliced aubergine (£3.20), and kalo daal, black lentils (£3.60), and pilau rice (£2). My guest enjoyed the aubergine possibly more than her main dish, but I felt the black lentils deserved the prize for this course, being a lighter, more interesting take on the traditional dish. I found them simply delicious.

Having devoured everything ordered, we found ourselves with no room for pudding but thankfully not suffering from that horrible feeling of over-indulgence.

Add a bottle of wine and our meal

came to a reasonable £49.85. The whole meal was top-notch, along with attentive but not intrusive service in a tastefully relaxed setting. However, even if Gurkha Restaurant had failed in any (or possibly all) of these things, I'm a convert on the strength of that one starter alone. The meal was good, but choyla was exceptional.

As we emerged into the din of a traditional Maidstone Saturday night, I found myself already contemplating a return visit, but if that proves impossible I have the takeaway menu – I fear these newcomers will come to know my front door well.

Erica Jones

**Gurkha Restaurant,
112 Week Street,
Maidstone ME 14 1RH
Telephone: 01622 692343**

Farmers' markets

Mersham

A NEWCOMER to the growing number of markets is now being held at the Farriers Arms, Mersham Forstal, between 2.30pm and 6.30pm every second and fourth Friday in the month; it features top-quality local produce at very competitive prices.

Horsmonden

HORSMONDEN farmers' market has some 20 stalls, covering a full range of produce including meat, game, poultry, eggs, cheese, fruit and vegetables, bread, jams and pickles, honey, prepared pies, pastries, cakes and bakes and more exotic produce such as prepared Italian meals.

Bridge

THE market at The Red Lion pub on the second and fourth Saturdays of the month aims to give shoppers the opportunity to buy fresh local food and drink which contributes to their well-being, protects their environment and respects animal welfare.

Tunbridge Wells

THE farmers' market is located in the historic centre of Tunbridge Wells, The Pantiles. It revives the tradition of an open-air market held here a few centuries ago on the first and third Saturdays between the hours of 9am and 2pm.

Hythe

HYTHE farmers' market was established in March 2004 and is now located in the Methodist church hall (between Chapel Street and Prospect Road); it is open on the second and fourth Saturdays every month from 10am to midday.

Elham

THE Elham market is held on the second and fourth Sundays of the month in the courtyard of The Rose And Crown pub, from 10am to midday. It offers a selection of locally-produced fruit and vegetables, eggs, fresh meat, game, bread and honey.

■ For more farmers' markets, visit
www.farmersmarkets.org.uk

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FOCUS Whitstable Oyster Festival

The beautiful seaside town is preparing to celebrate the sea's bounty

THE town of Whitstable has been celebrated throughout the world for its association with oysters for hundreds of years – but the festival has roots that go back further than even locals might think.

From Saturday to Friday, July 23-29, the town will be jampacked with revellers and events to watch, food to taste and activities in which to take part.

And it carries on a tradition stretching back centuries.

In Norman times, Whitstable was already an established fishing port, and fishermen and those who kept the harbour free of silt customarily held an annual ceremony of thanksgiving for their survival and harvest.

The fishermen naturally held their festival celebration during the slack period and closed season for oysters.

As a 'holy day', the festival would include a formal church ceremony, after which the townspeople would spend the rest of the day in feasting, dancing, playing games and contests.

With the feast day of St James of Compostella – patron saint of oysters – falling on July 25, this date eventually became the accepted time to hold the festival, which is why the festival is still held in summer even today.

The exact form of the original ceremony is not recorded but would have probably centred on a formal blessing of the town, the sea, the fishing fleet and the fishermen and dredgers themselves.

The current event symbolically recreates the Landing of the Oysters, with Whitstable Sea Scouts bringing oysters ashore for a formal blessing by clergy before being presented to the Lord Mayor.

This takes place on Saturday at Long Beach at about 5.30pm and ends with a street party.

From around 6pm the oysters are passed to inns and restaurants as part of the colourful Oyster Parade as it travels through the town centre.

Roads will be closed to traffic to allow the procession of music, circus performers and dancers to show off their talents, while shops and restaurants will be offering special treats.

The Blessing of the Waters service will be held at Reeves Beach on Thursday, July 28, organised by the Association of Men of Kent and Kentish Men, and the local tradition of grotter building – creating hollow mounds of sand or



SUMMER BREEZE: From oysters to fish, tug-of-war to a relaxing stroll along the beach, Whitstable Oyster Festival celebrates the many delights of the sea

mud with an outside decoration of oyster shells – which is still practised on the same day.

Originally built by children who would beg a penny for the grotter much as other children did for Guy Fawkes, today's grotters are built purely for the fun of it and lit by candles to produce an intriguing nighttime spectacle.

The current festival was reintroduced when the local oyster industry, almost wiped out in the 1920s by a combination of disease and overfishing, was revived in the 1980s.

It is best described as a modern evolution of the older festival, being a mixture of arts, family

events and food and drink, with some contests thrown in.

Other events include displays by the locally-based Dead Horse Morris starting in the harbour from 10am to 11.30am on Saturday and bands on stage at Belmont Park FC's ground from 5pm later that day.

A petanque competition takes place on Sunday, July 24, which also sees a food fair in the harbour as well as the infamous Mud Tug, which is held at low tide on the beach at 1pm.

Eight teams take part in this tug-of-war challenge in front of the Waterfront Club.

At 4.30pm that day The Oyster Challenge is held, where contestants have to down six oysters and half a pint of pilsner lager as quickly as possible.

Exhibitions, musical performances and workshops for children all take place throughout the week, and the finale on Friday, July 28, sees a traditional Punch and Judy show at the Umbrella Centre at 1.30pm, while the official end of the festival is marked with a parade from 8pm along The Street shingle bank with participants in fish- and seaside-related fancy dress.



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By the water: Six of the Best



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On the menu...

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How to book...

William & Brown Tapas, 48 Harbour Street, Whitstable CT5 1AQ; phone 01227 273373; www.thetapas.co.uk

Water, water everywhere and what a lot to eat

ON a hot summer day, or while enjoying the peace of an evening as the sun goes down, there are few more pleasant places to be than by the water.

Whether it's a meandering river winding its way through the meadows, by the blue sea under a cloudless sky, or on the shores of a deep and dark lake, there is something about the water that inspires.

And when you combine it with the best of food and drink in company of your own choosing, you have the ingredients for a perfect moment in time.

This week we feature some of the best eateries with that

combination... high-quality food, excellent drinks and proximity to the waterside. Kent boasts one of the longest coastlines of any counties and two great rivers.

The Medway divides the county into two – those who live to the east are Men (or Maids) of Kent, while Kentish Men (and, of course, their Maids) live to the west.

The county's other major river, the Stour, has been of great historical significance, with even the vast stones that make up some of the county's historic monuments being carried on barges ploughing their way along its waters.

So here are some places to sit by the water's edge, reflect and enjoy...



Smiths Court Margate

Why here...

Soaring 12ft windows and polished marble floors make The Orangery at Smiths Court one of the best dining venues in Thanet.

All produce is locally sourced and freshly produced.

On the menu...

Set-price table d'hôte menu costs £19.95 for three courses, for lunch or dinner. Also a carvery on Sundays from noon until 3pm. This month's highlights are steak tartare and cannon of lamb.

How to book...

The Orangery Restaurant, Smiths Court Hotel; phone 01843 222310 info@orangeryrestaurant.co.uk www.orangeryrestaurant.co.uk



Grove Ferry Inn Upstreet

Why here...

The Grove Ferry Inn sits on the banks of the River Stour near Canterbury. It has scenic gardens stretching along the river and, with a riverside terrace, barbecue and boat trips, is the perfect escape during the day or evening. It is an excellent location for those who want to unwind and relax with fine food and drink by the side of the water and take in the delights of

the best of a Kentish summer when the sun shines.

On the menu...

Fresh and local are the order of the day. Lunchtime favourites include the flatbreads to share and spatchcock chicken; on the butcher's block you will find various cuts of steak cooked to order. Desserts are also popular, along with the best of wines and beers.

How to book...

The pub can be contacted via the website, www.thegroveferry.co.uk, or by phone on 01227 860302.

Beachbrow Deal

Why here...

A small family-run hotel with helpful, welcoming and friendly staff. Ideally situated opposite the pier, guests can unwind in the relaxing atmosphere while enjoying the views.

On the menu...

The hotel is proud of its menu of Kent-sourced produce, including Romney Marsh lamb, Alkham Valley beef, free-range chicken, duck and pork and local vegetables to suit all palates.

How to book...

Beachbrow Hotel, 29 Beach Street, Deal CT14 6HY phone: 01304 374338 fax: 01304 373159



Dog and Duck Plucks Gutter

Why here...

The Dog and Duck is located on the Saxon Walk, an area steeped in history. This family-run pub and restaurant, which sits on the banks of River Stour, is open seven days a week and serves food every day from midday to 9pm.

You can enjoy the weather in the large garden, where bat and trap and croquet are free for all. There is live music in the garden every Sunday,

weather permitting. Dogs on leads are welcome.

On the menu...

A large menu with specials is available and includes crab and salmon salads, carbonara, homemade pies and meat puddings, lasagne and desserts. All produce, meat and fish is sourced locally. Try the midweek menu (Monday to Friday), at £10 for three courses.

How to book...

Dog and Duck, Plucks Gutter, near Canterbury CT3 1JB (follow the signs at Sarre or Monkton to Preston)



The Swan Westgate

Why here...

Super food, a great range of drinks and a friendly atmosphere. Bar food is available daily except Sundays, when there is a carvery. A la carte menu on Friday and Saturday evenings.

On the menu...

A wide and varied choice of appetisers, including moules marinière, homemade salmon fish cakes, deep-fried whitebait, spaghetti Bolognese, fish platter and Spanish paella.

How to book...

The Swan 75 Sea Road, Westgate-on-Sea CT8 8QG 01843 831401 www.theswanatwestgate.co.uk

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Picturesque Marlow



The Crowne Plaza's lakeside location



The hotel pool

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Warner Norton Grange

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- Return Car Ferry



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Bembridge Coast Hotel Isle of Wight - Over 40s only

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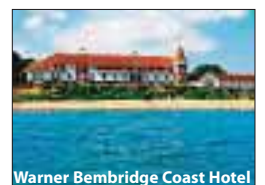
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- Full entertainment programme
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WALK

Royal Military Canal

Visit www.kent.gov.uk/explorekent

WALKERS are spoilt for choice on how they want to explore the Royal Military Canal in Hythe. Whether you prefer a long walk or a short stroll, there is a lot to discover and a lovely slice of slow-paced rural life to be experienced on the banks of the canal in Hythe.

Hythe is one of the five original Cinque Ports (pronounced 'sink') on the Garden Coast. It is on a broad bay of the English Channel and a wide promenade overlooks a long stretch of beach and the English Channel to France. It is an ideal place to go for a great day out, with a summer picnic and safe bathing.

There are a few walking routes to be enjoyed along the canal. The four-mile walk makes an ideal afternoon's stroll. Many people, however, enjoy the challenge of the entire stretch of the canal – this can be done in a day, but most like to make a weekend of it.

The 28-mile-long Royal Military Canal, which links Kent and East Sussex, was completed in 1809 as a defensive barrier against Napoleon and the then-threatened invasion.

At its peak there were 1,500 men working on the project. The canal was dug entirely by hand, using picks and shovels, and the soil was carried away in wheelbarrows. By the time the Royal Military Canal was ready for use, the threat of invasion had long since past.

The canal, now a listed monument, still serves an important purpose today, managing water levels and providing flood protection. Its tree-lined banks provide a lovely setting and a home for many types of wildlife. The river also provides a welcome escape for many locals wanting to spend tranquil time fishing, walking or just watching the world go by.

The walk passes the world-famous Romney, Hythe and Dymchurch Light Railway – a must for all visitors to Hythe. While the one-third-scale steam and diesel engines offer scenic tours of the unique landscape of Romney Marsh, it is also an important service for local schoolchildren.

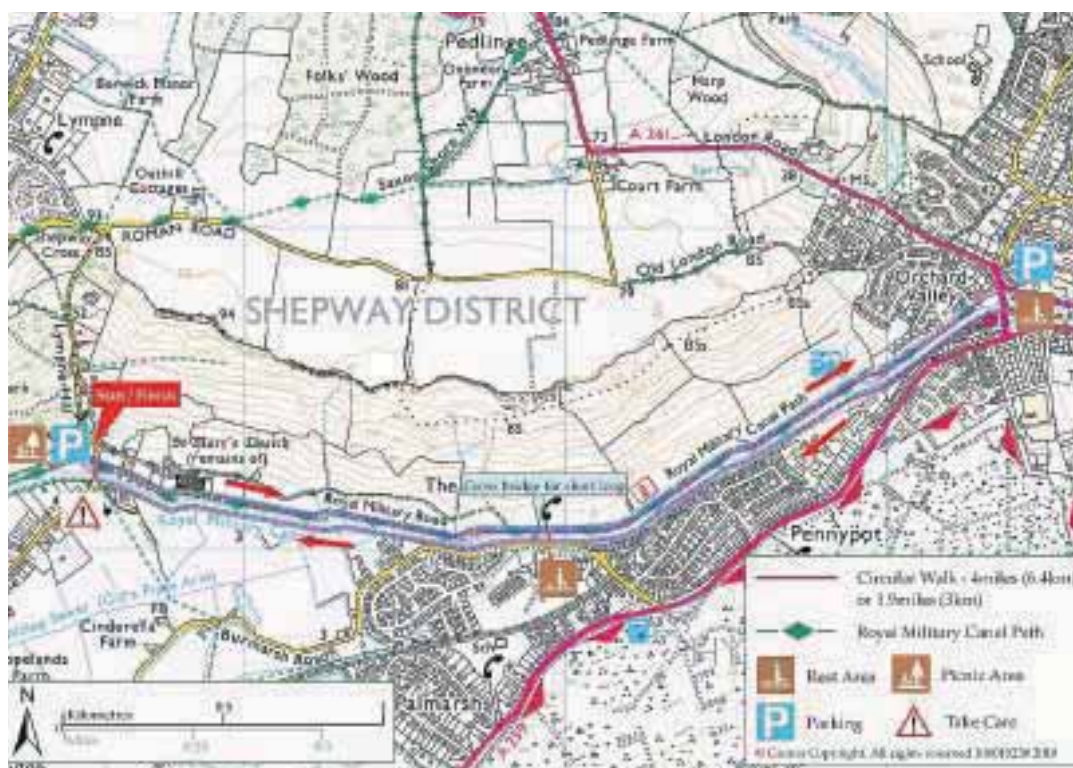
The railway, the dream of millionaire racing drivers Captain JEP Howey and Count Louis Zborowski, was built in the 1920s and later extended to its current route, which runs to Dungeness.

Certain sections of the Royal Military Canal can also be enjoyed by cyclists and horse-riders. Visit the Explore Kent website for more information about these activities.

■ **Location:** Hythe, CT21 4NT

■ **Distance:** From the town centre or from West Hythe you have the choice of a 1.9-mile

If you are after a relaxing stroll, or looking for something a little more taxing, this pleasurable walk along the Royal Military Canal in Hythe offers you the best of both worlds



(3km) or a four-mile (6.4km) walk.

■ **Terrain:** Flat paths, with a hard, fine surface. Ideal for all abilities, including pushchairs and wheelchairs.

■ **OS Explorer Map:** 138

■ **Parking:** At the foot of Lympe Hill, West Hythe, or many car parks in Hythe town centre.

■ **Refreshments and facilities:** There are many pubs, cafés and restaurants in Hythe. Toilets are available at information point two; however, the adapted toilets are only accessible during opening times.



Explore Kent

EXPLORE Kent is your one-stop shop for the county's best walks, bike rides, horse rides and parks. With inspirational videos, a free iPhone map application, ideas for days out and much more, you can explore and enjoy Kent's countryside and coast.

Visit the website www.kent.gov.uk/explorekent
Or call: 08458 247600 (Mon-Fri 8am-8pm)

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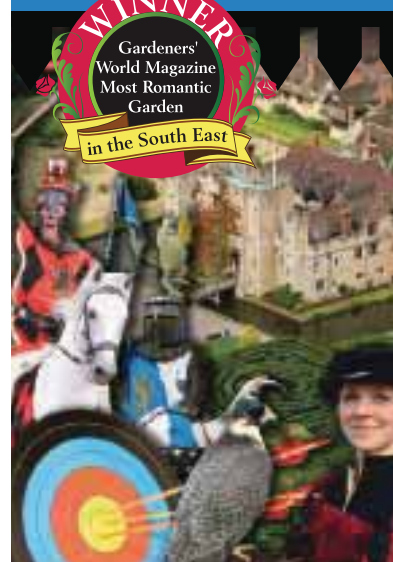
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www.wildwoodtrust.org
Open every day from 10am

WILDWOOD is a great day out for all the family where you can come nose to nose with British wildlife. Run by the Wildwood Trust, a charity dedicated to protecting our fauna, this is a unique conservation project which tells the story of local animals during the past 1,000 years. Many of the animals at Kent's best British-wildlife park are now extinct or under threat in the UK, so your visit will play a big part in nature conservation. You can join experts for close-up animal talks and feeds with wolves, foxes, deer, badgers, owls, wild horses, lynx, beavers, wild cats, bison and more. Youngsters can also go wild in the adventure play park featuring Kent's tallest vertical drop-slide, wild fort and twisting tube slide.



Summer fun

Activities for the children

The Towers School, Ashford
Monday to Friday, July 25-29, and Monday to Friday, August 1-5
01233 634171

THE Towers School in Ashford is hosting events and activities over the school holidays for eight- to 16-year-olds. Some of the activities lined up for the Summer Fun Academy include first aid, circus skills, dancing, cookery, jewellery-making, karate, go-karting and remote-controlled cars. The school is also hosting roller-skating sessions through the summer. Roller-skates, helmets and pads will all be provided. Children can sign up each day for two or three activities or for a whole week. The price is £10 per day or £50 for the week. Roller-skating is £4 each session. The first two skating sessions are on Tuesday, July 26, and Tuesday, August 2. Children should bring suitable clothes, suncream and a packed lunch.

Conservation

Bittern by the birding bug

Dungeness RSPB reserve
July to August
www.rspb.org.uk/dungeness
adults £3, concessions £2

THE bittern, a scarce member of the heron family, has bred at the RSPB's Dungeness reserve for the second year running. This year there are two nests, both with young. The reserve recorded its first

booming male in spring 2009, suggesting that breeding could at least be a possibility. Martin Randall, RSPB site manager, said: "The best way to tell if breeding has been successful is when we see the female parent flying to a nest with food for the chicks. "After observing their activity last week we are delighted to confirm that there is not just one but two nests." Male bitterns are polygamous and can mate with up to five females in the same season if habitat conditions are right. Building on the first breeding pair on the reserve last year,

this summer the male bittern has set up two homes with separate females. Mr Randall said: "Up until 2009 we had bitterns spending the winter here, but they left for Europe to breed. For the last two summers they have stayed and bred here, which shows how successful the work to improve the birds' reedbed habitat has been." RSPB guides will be on hand every weekend between July 16-17 and the end of August to help visitors see the birds. For details, visit www.rspb.org.uk/dungeness.



Sculptures

go on show

Carved art

The Harbour Arm Gallery, Margate
Until Tuesday, July 19
margateharbourarm.co.uk

PURE Form, a collective of artists from many backgrounds, is taking its show Stone Boats Don't Float to Margate. Ben Kidger, a member of the group, said: "We enjoy a shared experience and ambition of direct stone-carving. "The aim of the group is to study the art of carving in Canterbury, a place synonymous with the medium and to give it a contemporary revival." Established and directed by Patrick Crouch, the group has moved to Canterbury College, where it extended the opportunity to students to work with professionals in the field of art and to discuss their work and ideas with individuals from other professions. It is open to any students who wish to join the collective either as an addition or as part of their studies at college. The exhibition is inspired by the form, architecture and artistry of Margate, now extended by the new Turner Contemporary building. The exhibition will be open from 11am-4pm.



Masks from Sri Lanka

Devil dancing

Powell-Cotton Museum, Birchington
Tuesdays to Sundays, 10am-5pm
www.quexmuseum.org

THEY languished in the background virtually unnoticed for years, but now some 20 extraordinary devil dancing masks from Sri Lanka form a new exciting exhibition at the Powell Cotton Museum at Quex Park near Birchington. Bought by Major Percy Powell Cotton at auction in

London 100 years ago, the masks had been the collection of a Mr GA Jennings of Saltash, Cornwall. When and where he collected them remains a mystery. The tradition of masked dancing and mask-making was especially strong in southern Sri Lanka, around the town of Ambalangoda and the city of Galle. It continues today, though focused now very much on the tourist market. The bulging eyes and cobra head-dresses distinguish these Sri Lankan masks from those found in other parts of the world. The exhibition runs until the end of October. Entrance is £7 for adults and £5 for children.

Karting for ages 4-16



Turn up'n' drive karting available on various days throughout the school holidays (10:30pm to 5pm) – no booking required. See website for details and dates.



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EXHIBITIONS & EVENTS

To be included on this page, please email
features@kosmedia.co.uk

Exhibition

The notorious Goodwins

Deal Hoy, Duke Street, Deal
Until Sunday, July 31
01304 363972
www.searts.co.uk

DEAL'S summer festival has wound to a close for another year, but one exhibition remains open to the public until the end of July. The Goodwin Sands display is being held at the Deal Hoy pub and includes stunning pictures as well as articles and books about the sands and their treacherous nature. Many of the exhibited articles were written by former Deal boatman and local Goodwin Sands expert David Chamberlain. The infamous sands consist of a 10-mile bank in the middle of the English Channel just six miles off Deal. The notorious banks are believed to have wrecked more than 2,000 ships as they rest in a busy shipping lane.



Guided walks

Pull on your hiking boots

Throughout Kent
Mon, July 18, to Sun, August 7
www.kent.gov.uk/explorekent
08458 247600

PEOPLE across Kent are being invited to put their best foot forward for the Explore Kent Walking Festival. From Monday, July 18, to Sunday, August 7, there will be more than 120 free guided walks in the festival, which coincides with the start of the school holidays. The three-week programme is being run by Explore Kent, an arm of Kent County Council

that promotes walking, cycling and horse-riding in the countryside and along the coast. The festival has something for everyone; from families looking to keep the children entertained during the holidays to beginners wanting an easy introduction to walking; and from those just looking for a relaxing stroll in the sunshine to seasoned fans of the great outdoors. Experienced leaders will offer a range of themed walks, focusing on nature, the coast, heritage and more. Mike Hill, county council cabinet member for community services, said: "Kent has some of the most stunning countryside. This is a great opportunity for people to discover parts they never knew existed."

Triennial art

Tube map of top exhibits

Tontine Street, Folkestone
Until September
www.folkestonetriennial.co.uk
www.ucf.ac.uk

A NEW map allows visitors to embark on a London Underground-style journey at the Folkestone Triennial. Students at University Centre Folkestone have created a

Tube map of the Folkestone Triennial festival to guide visitors around past and present artwork sites this summer. The students were briefed to plan a public intervention inspired by the festival and its walking tours. The group, formed of first-year students Joe Grey, Annmarie Chapman, Elisabeth James and recent visual-arts graduate Lola Godoy, was mentored and sponsored by organisers of the Triennial festival and staff at the university. James said: "The 'lines' guide the viewer around

Folkestone, but the schematic nature of the map forces visitors to work out their own routes between consecutive 'stations', thus importing an element of chance into their wanderings." The innovative map is displayed in a prime location, halfway up Tontine Street, near the gateway to Folkestone's Creative Quarter, presently marked by the Triennial Visitor Centre near the harbour. University Centre Folkestone has launched a programme of installations and workshops as part of the Fringe events.



Olympic art

countdown

Dover display

Dover Discovery Centre
Friday and Saturday, July 22-23
Open from 11am-4pm
www.dadonline.eu

AS part of the London 2012 Open Weekend, Dover Arts Development is delivering a programme of events including The Table, Bunting Forever and Dysarticulate 2. Open Weekend is a series of sporting and cultural events taking place across the UK that will see thousands of people celebrate the One Year To Go countdown to the Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2012. The Table exhibit is being made at the Old Sorting Office at Charlton Green from timber reclaimed from recently-demolished iconic buildings in Dover. The team is led by sculptor Anthony Heywood, pictured (he's on the left). Bunting Forever is an exhibit designed to produce handmade wool bunting to welcome the Olympic torch to Dover in 2012. Bring old jumpers and unused wool to Dover's Market Square for the launch. Dysarticulate 2, meanwhile, is an opportunity to take part in a unique public artwork by making a field of paper flags from pages of old, unusable books.

HOMES



Own a slice of history



Bleak House Broadstairs

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DINING ROOM ■ MUSIC ROOM ■ RAISED
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GARDENS ■ PRIVATE PARKING

ONE of the most famous addresses in the world of literature has just gone on to the market.

Bleak House in Broadstairs, a favourite holiday home of Charles Dickens and his family, is on the market with Chesterton Humberts Country Department for £2 million.

Believed to have been built in about 1801 and known as Fort House, it was used by the Dickens family between 1837 and 1859 and it was here that the author completed David Copperfield in 1851. The house is also believed to have served as the inspiration behind the novel Bleak House, although the property itself was only renamed Bleak House many years after the novel had been published.

Now providing extensive and well-presented family accommodation over four floors, the property comprises a principal bedroom suite

Kent's finest property of the week

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it's property for Kent



with en-suite bathroom and dressing room, five further bedrooms, three bathrooms, a drawing room, dining room and music room.

Dickens's study, which looks out towards the sea on the extreme right of the building, is still in place, as well as extensive cellars, which were formerly used as a museum.

The Grade II-listed property also benefits from private parking and a raised terrace running along the southern elevation of the house, with steps down to the sweeping lawn and formal gardens.

James Grillo, associate director at Chesterton Humberts country department, said: "Bleak House is one of only a few properties in the world to be lived in by Charles Dickens, one of

the world's most famous authors, and naturally this gives the house scarcity value.

"This is a property that could be seen as an antique, and there are a number of buyers who buy properties with this sort of provenance because they just relish the opportunity of being a custodian of such a historic house. But, having previously been used as a museum and with planning permission for a boutique hotel, there is another type of buyer that will recognise the commercial potential of the property and look to buy it for that reason.

"The Dickens link raises the property's profile within the country-house market and will attract a number of people who have might not have previously considered this sort of property

had it not been for the fact that they had seen it in the Press, but even without this link, this is a beautiful property in a stunning location, an opinion obviously shared by Dickens himself."

Chesterton Humberts, itself established in 1805, is the only estate agency to employ its own full-time house historian, Melaine Backe-Hansen, who has been researching the history of the property.

She said: "Bleak House was very important to Dickens as he often stayed there on his frequent visits to Broadstairs.

"According to John Forster, a friend and official biographer of Dickens, Bleak House was 'the residence he most desired'. His daughter, Mamie Dickens, also said that Bleak House

was the one 'on which he had always set his affections'."

The property is, of course, in the historic seaside town of Broadstairs, renowned for its quaint squares of fishermen's cottages and Blue Flag sandy beaches; it is within easy walking distance of all the local amenities, including shops, schools, restaurants and public houses.

The town has a mainline railway station, which is just a short journey from Ramsgate and its high-speed services to London St Pancras.

■ **For more information, phone James Grillo at Chesterton Humberts country department on 020 7594 4746, or visit www.chestertonhumberts.co.uk**

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Brenchley, Kent Guide Price £595,000

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Offers Invited by 16.09.2011 (unless sold prior)
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Tunbridge Wells, Kent £597,000

Single plot with planning permission for a detached 5 bedroom house of approximately 3,361 sq ft in sought after area



Margate, Kent £190,000

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Allhallows, Kent Guide Price £500,000

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Sheppey, Kent £400,000

Investment/development opportunity comprising existing bungalow and 5 acres of land with potential



Lamberhurst Quarter, Kent Offers Invited

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Folkestone, Kent Offers Invited

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PICTURE POSTCARD: Tenterden is well known for its tree-lined high street and individual shops

Growing interest in tranquil town

THE Cinque Port of Tenterden, south-west of Ashford, is embodied by its tree-lined high street. Historic and rural, the small town offers visitors a quieter pace of life than its nearest neighbours.

The town grew around the wool industry during the 14th century and prospered due to its central location, offering straight routes to Ashford and Maidstone, as well as Hastings and Rye.

The Kent and East Sussex Railway line, which runs to Bodiam, is the town's traditional tourist draw, but the annual Tenterden Folk Festival has also brought music fans since 1993.

Tenterden has also as a tradition of late-night shopping on the first Friday of December.

It is very much a unique town, sometimes referred to as one of Kent's micro-climates. Properties that sell well are retirement apartments and large family homes – semi-detached three-bedrooms and four-bedroom detached.

The town offers exceptional amenities,

including the leisure centre with pool at the end of Recreation Ground Road, which was opened by Diana, Princess of Wales; a medical centre; and (some say too many) supermarkets.

Tenterden is well known for its individual shops and coffee houses.

First-time buyers can find it difficult to get on the property ladder as the cheapest starter homes tend to be priced around the £200,000 mark.

This causes a problem and tends to mean the sales come from either second homes, as holiday cottages, or buy-to-let.

Many of the buyers come from out of the area, with many current residents having moved from south London. These buyers are predominantly downsizing and looking to take early retirement.

This allows the property market to move well, with the benefit being that the bulk of the business is not reliant on mortgages, which is a benefit to

Tenterden's property-sellers.

Fun fact: Famed President Nixon-conquering TV interviewer David Frost was born in Tenterden.



PROPERTY SPOTLIGHT ON TENTERDEN

What makes it special?
TENTERDEN is set in the very heart of the Weald of Kent, famous for its Seven Wonders of the Weald. Surrounded by unspoilt countryside, it is an extremely attractive town and home to the Kent and Sussex Railway, which has restored steam locomotives and carriages running along a track to the nearby historic castle of Bodiam. The line is frequently used as a film set for period dramas. The main street of the town boasts a series of attractive cafés, pubs, bars, restaurants and boutiques.

Room to improve
PUBLIC transport to Tenterden is not of the best quality and bus services are not as frequent as many residents would like. The nearest railway station is at Headcorn, which is about seven miles away. Some of the town's outer estates are in need of investment and regeneration and parking can be a problem in the centre of the town.

Prices
THE area has been one of the most popular for buying in the county, mainly due to the countryside location. The average price for a two-bedroom flat over the last year has been in the region of £213,000.

A semi-detached property has been fetching some £248,000, while a detached home has been going for £415,000. The immediate area is also home to many large country houses, which are always at a premium price when on the market. These can fetch more than £1 million easily, and many come with large amounts of land attached. The rental market follows a similar trend, with rooms in larger properties at about £200 a week. However, in the outskirts of the town some bargains can be found by the diligent, with



rooms going for as little as £70.

Shops
THE town has a range of stores aimed at the visitor, including antiques, books and farming produce. But there are also convenience stores and supermarkets. Tenterden is still a market town and hosts a Friday market full of interesting stalls at which shoppers can buy a huge range of products such as bread, fresh salmon, olives or a bouquet of flowers. The nearby village of Rolvenden holds an extremely popular weekly farmers' market every Thursday.

Schools
HOMEWOOD School has a reputation for excellence at secondary level and has its own sixth form. Today, Homewood is at the forefront of the 21st-century personalised learning agenda, with an accelerated timetable at both key stages and opportunities for a curriculum enabling students to sit examinations when they are ready to take them rather than by a fixed age. Educationalists from other countries regularly visit Homewood to observe. The Kirk Building offers facilities of training for work-based learning, led by specialist tutors in catering, plus aspects of construction

skills and enterprise. Village primary schools in the area have also received good reports in recent years.

Connections
THE main A28 leads to the north-east to Ashford, which is about 11 miles away. From there, the M20 connects to the M25 and the rest of the UK's road network as well as going to the Channel ports. Ashford also has the high-speed rail service to London, which takes 37 minutes to reach St Pancras, as well as services to other London stations. Eurostar trains run to Paris, Brussels and Lille. Cheriton is the terminal for Le Shuttle services, which take cars, and that is 15 miles away along the B2067; alternatively, it can be reached via Ashford and the motorway. Hastings and the Sussex coast is 20 miles to the south along the A28.

What's on
THE Kent and East Sussex Railway has an accompanying museum and there is a museum dedicated to the town. Despite being inland now, Tenterden was once on a tidal river and is officially one of the Cinque Ports. A music and food festival is held every summer and the town also has a folk festival, which is one of the best in the South East. Bonfire night sees a fireworks celebration.

Around and about
Sissinghurst Castle is an extremely popular tourist attraction and Chapel Down vineyards produce some of England's best wine – it was drunk as part of the royal-wedding celebrations by Prince William and his guests. Bodiam Castle is one of the finest examples of a medieval fortress in Britain and Biddenden is famous for its cider. The villages of Smalhythe and Wittersham are also extremely attractive spots.



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Guide: £100-110,000



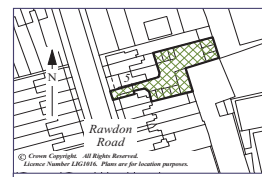
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MAIDSTONE
Site for 3 Flats
Guide: £115-125,000



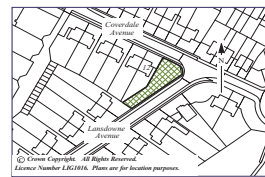
LONGFIELD
Two Plots of Woodland
Guides: £28-32,000 & £5-10,000



BRABOURNE LEES
Large Detached House
Guide: £400-410,000



MOTNEY HILL, RAINHAM
19 Acres Land
Guide: £60-65,000



MAIDSTONE
Building Plot
Guide: £65-70,000



SWANTON ST, BREDGAR
Converted Barn Residence
Guide: £150-160,000



SEVENOAKS WEALD
Village Store
Guide: £5-6,000



ROCHESTER
Shop and Flat
Guide: £125-130,000



SOLE STREET, COBHAM
Eight Acres with Stables
Guide: £90-100,000



WELLING
Semi for Refurbishment
Guide: £170-180,000



SNODLAND
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Guide: £100-110,000



GILLINGHAM
House for Refurbishment
Guide: £75-85,000



ORPINGTON
16 Acres Grazing Land
Guide: £160-170,000



GRAVESEND
Town Centre Flat
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CHATHAM
House for Improvement
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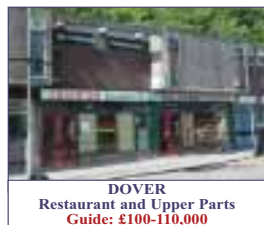
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FOLKESTONE
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 Guide: £14-16,000



WARDEN
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 Guide: £80-90,000



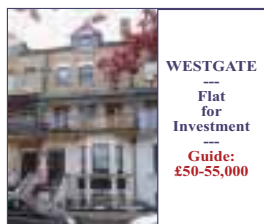
HERNE HILL
 Development Site - 4 Houses
 Guide: £300-325,000



RAMSGATE
 Three Bed House for Improvement
 Guide: £110-120,000



WHITSTABLE
 Mast
 Site
 Investment
 Guide:
 £50-55,000



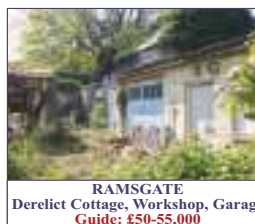
WESTGATE
 Flat
 for
 Investment
 Guide:
 £50-55,000



WHITSTABLE
 Freehold Commercial Investment
 Guide: £315-350,000



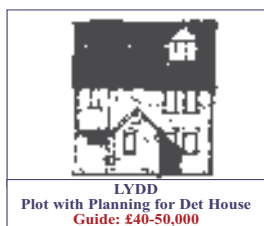
DOVER
 Two Bedroom House for Investment
 Guide: £80-85,000



RAMSGATE
 Derelict Cottage, Workshop, Garage
 Guide: £50-55,000



CLIFTONVILLE
 Two Bedroom Flat with Sea Views
 Guide: £40-45,000



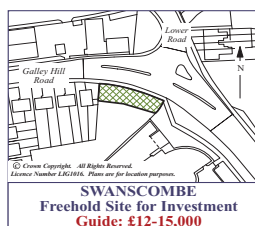
LYDD
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 Guide: £40-50,000



BROADSTAIRS
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FOLKESTONE
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Head to Valley Park for super savings



BILLED AS more than just a place to live, there is even more reason to pay a visit to the stunning Valley Park development of New England style homes on the outskirts of Rye, East Sussex.

For the rest of this month you can save a massive £30,000 on the Albany, a spacious two bedroom stylish and contemporary double fronted semi-detached house which has the added bonus of a detached garage. The offer is so good that the developers have had to restrict it to selected plots.

Overlooking the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Valley Park is just half a mile from Rye station with its links to London St Pancras in around an hour and major coastal East Sussex towns. All Valley Park Homes are built to an extremely high specification and the Albany is no exception which boasts oak flooring and underfloor heating on the ground floor.

A central front door leads to the hall which has a cloakroom, the living room, kitchen/diner and carpeted stairs leading off it. The fully fitted kitchen/diner with its built-in appliances extends into a glass conservatory which overlooks the private rear turfed garden. Upstairs, there are two generous bedrooms with fitted wardrobes and an en-suite shower room to the master bedroom, plus a further family bathroom with its outside window.

Every feature has been carefully considered and the attention to detail includes:

- Polished chrome switches & sockets
- Solid four panel internal doors
- Polished chrome door handles
- Illuminated mirror cabinet in the main bathroom
- Wall lights and chrome downlighters
- Ceiling coving
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- Close Panel Garden Fence

Valley Park has provided one of the first opportunities to buy such character homes built to the latest eco standards in Rye for many years. Once surrounded by sea, this fortified hilltop town played an important role

in the defence of the south coast of England. These days, the river no longer harbours warships and is home to the local fishing fleet whose catches include Rye Bay scallops and Dover sole.

Meandering for over one and a half miles from the town to the coast, the river forms part of the picturesque scenery visible from several vantage points in and around the citadel of Rye.

These ancient buildings, cobbled streets and secret passages, once the haunt of smugglers and highwaymen, regularly attract film crews in search of historical settings for period productions.

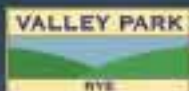
The sheer concentration of living history

packed into this vibrant market town makes a wonderful place to live. There are many pubs and restaurants in and around the town and the outlying villages all offering an alternative slice of country night-life way from the hustle and bustle.

The marshes are now one of the largest bird sanctuaries in Europe and there is so much to do in Rye with the miles of unspoilt dunes and sandy beach at Camber Sands nearby.

For more details on Valley Park call the sales office on 01797 222547

or visit www.valleyparkrye.co.uk



Valley Park so much more than a place to live



Spectacular Summer Sale

Valley Park is a stunning development of beautifully designed New England style 2, 3, and 4 bedroom homes in a breathtaking location overlooking an Area of **Outstanding National Beauty** on the outskirts of Rye

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Stylish and contemporary homes all built to an extremely high specification and virtually maintenance free cladding

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SEE PAGE 71

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Revitalised 308 adds up

Peugeot gives family favourite a facelift and greener credentials

SEE PAGE 69 FOR ROAD TEST

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Peugeot 308 maturing nicely

By Sam Davison

editorial@archant.co.uk

THERE'S a tendency in the carmaking business to present old wine in new bottles.

And there's a risk that if the original vintage was flaky, then no amount of fresh presentation will make it seem any better.

So Peugeot took a chance in 2007 when it repackaged its 307 family hatchback – a car best described as vin ordinaire – to create the 308 replacement.

As it happens, though, the French marque worked something of a miracle with that old vintage; the 308 styling detail was crisper, the chassis more together, and the pièce de résistance was a quality cabin to send shockwaves through mainstream rivals.

When Peugeot followed up two years later with a 308 CC (coupé convertible) version, it even offered a leather dashboard option that would not have disgraced a car costing twice the price.

Now the 308 has had a facelift and, as with the 307/308 metamorphosis, the makeover is more than it appears, although Peugeot's 'new 308' label is a tad optimistic.

Nevertheless, the revitalised 308 five-door hatchback line-up (from £15,245) is impressive and now includes the Peugeot's slick diesel 112bhp 1.6-litre e-HDi 'stop & start' powertrain (from £17,665) partnered with a manual gearbox – e-HDi made its debut earlier this year on Peugeot's classy new 508 company car motor, but minus the clutch pedal.

That version does not really wow the driver, though the sums add up for company drivers. The six-speed manual version fitted to the 308, on the other hand, puts the driver more in touch.

It underlines its value, too, with a running total of how long the engine is switched off while sitting at the lights or simply crawling in

PEUGEOT 308 e-HDi ALLURE: PRICE £16,399



VINTAGE MODEL:

The 308 has had a facelift and includes Peugeot's slick diesel 1.6-litre stop/start engine, plus a full-length glass roof on the higher trim models

stop-go traffic. I was staggered to see 10 minutes logged on a journey that took some 30 minutes.

Of course, it would be even better if it could tell you how much fuel it saved while switched off, but that's probably a tall order – maybe next time, though, judging by technical strides now being made across the motor industry.

Our road test showed that the e-HDi calls for very little ownership sacrifices; the ride and handling are good all-round and the engine feels refined.

But are stop/start systems for everyone?

Only if they come bundled as part of the bargain. If you don't do much city driving and must pay extra – it starts at about £900 with the 308 – then maybe it's not for you.

But eco benefits stretch across the 308 range generally, with meaner and cleaner engines, a 25-kilo cut in weight across the range and exterior styling touches that make the car sleeker and smarter, all adding up to lower

road tax and fuel bills.

Cosmetically, the Peugeot 'gaping maw' grille has been toned down, making the 308 front end now cleaner and fresher, while LED running lights give a more upmarket look.

That premium cabin has been given even more quality and the 308's excellent rear headroom and cargo options make it one of the more versatile family hatches around – the full-length Cielo glass roof is a classy standard feature on our upmarket Allure-trim test car.

There is the usual wide choice of engines, with Peugeot's legendary diesels taking two-thirds of sales, augmented now by a road tax beating the low-emission eco diesel Oxygo.

The five-door hatch will continue to dominate body choice, with the CC (from £21,295) taking some 2 per cent of sales and the SW (estate) taking about 8 per cent.

The latter (from £16,245) continues to impress with its mix of capacity and class, plus the Cielo roof fitted to all but entry models.

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MOTORING NEWS



Citroën beats road-tax woe

CITROËN customers can drive away in one of 10 road tax-beating models that emit less than 100g/km CO₂.

From the electric C-Zero city car to the new C4 hatchback, drivers can enjoy big benefits. Citroën's sub-100g/km line-up also includes three C3 superminis with a green micro-hybrid powertrain, including second-generation Stop and Start.



E-Type voted UK's favourite

JAGUAR'S E-type – celebrating its 50th anniversary this year – has been voted the UK's favourite sports car.

An online poll by organisers of the 21st annual Silverstone Classic motor-racing festival (July 22-24) saw Jaguar's icon sprint to an early lead and then claim 25 per cent of all votes, pushing the Morgan to second place and the TVR Griffith third.



Great price for special Suzuki

SUZUKI has launched a Special Edition SX4 model, X-EC, based on the popular SZ4 grade but priced at £13,430.

It is available in front-wheel drive with 120PS (119bhp) 1.6-litre petrol engine and manual transmission only but comes equipped with colour sat-nav, Bluetooth, USB port, unique alloys, electric folding door mirrors and rear privacy glass.

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2002 Chrysler PT Cruiser
immaculate silver, manual 2.0, all extras, incl alloys, CD Radio, PAS **£1,995**



2003 Lexus IS 300 SE Automatic
green with full tan leather interior, full Lexus history **£3,995**



1999 BMW 323 SE AUTO
blue, full history, 4 dr saloon, all usual refinements **£1,995**

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2001 FIESTA 1.2 Freestyle, 5 dr hatchback, blue, alloys, pas, e/w, 74k with history, immaculate for year £1,895
1997 FORD FIESTA 1.25 LX Zetec 5 dr hatchback, dark green with tan velour trim, some history, long MOT and some tax £1,095
2000 FORD FIESTA 1.2 Zetec 2K, 5 dr, manual, blue, CD, pas, e/w £1,495
1998 PEUGEOT 106 XN Zest 2, silver, 1100 cc, patterned blue cloth interior, economy in MPG and price £895
2003 FIAT PUNTO 1.2 Active, 5 dr hatchback, metallic blue, manual, e/w, pas, etc £1,995

GENERAL CARS

2001 HONDA ACCORD 2.0 auto, 5 dr, silver, all usual extras including e/w, pas, cruise, alloys £1,995
2000 VW BORA 2.0 Sport AUTO 4 dr saloon, bright red with black velour trim, luxury family saloon at £1,895
2001 PEUGEOT 406 2.0 HDi Diesel Estate, manual, metallic blue, e/w, pas, tax and MOT £1,295
2003 LEXUS IS 300 SE Automatic, green with full tan leather interior, full Lexus history £3,995
1999 BMW 323 SE AUTO, blue, full history, 4 dr saloon, all usual refinements £1,995
2000 SAAB 9-5 2.3 Estate, blue, manual, black leather, all extras, CD, new tyres, Immaculate for year, drives as new £2,295
1999 BMW 535 SE auto, top of the range saloon, £35,000 new, lovely condition, grey, black leather, alloys, CD, etc £1,995

CONVERTIBLES

1998 BMW Z3 2.8 manual, blue with black elec roof, alloys, wide wheel arch model £3,995
1999 SAAB 9-3 CONVERTIBLE 2.0 AUTO, 63k with FULL SERVICE HISTORY, met green with black hood and cream leather trim £1,995

3 FOR THE LADIES

1999 FORD PUMA, 1.7 3 dr Coupe, manual, Silver, alloys, new engine and clutch, 1 yr MOT, £1,595
1999 FORD PUMA, 1.7 3 dr Coupe, manual, Met Green, alloys, lovely condition, 1 year MOT, 6 mths tax £1,595
1997 VAUXHALL TIGRA 1.4 Bermuda, met green sporty coupe, tax and MOT £1,295

P/X BARGAINS (All with 1 years MOT)

1995 MERCEDES C180, 4dr Saloon, blue, grey cloth trim, S/R, manual, 1yr MOT, CD radio £995
1996 VW PASSAT Estate, Turbo Diesel 1.9, manual, tax and test, green £895
1996 SKODA FELICIA 5 dr Hatchback, red, 1.6, tax and test £895
1999 HYUNDAI 1.6 COUPE, 2 dr, silver, tax and MOT £995
1995 FORD MONDEO 1.8 4 dr Saloon, blue, tax and test £495

COMMERCIAL

2003 VAUXHALL COMBO VAN, 1.7 DIESEL Manual, side door, white £1,995 NO VAT

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Free deals shows Honda has driver's needs in mind

By Sam Davison

editorial@archant.co.uk

HONDA is introducing four years' free servicing and roadside assistance on a range of models to help drive down the cost of new-car-ownership.

This offer applies on the CR-Z hybrid coupé and Insight hybrid family hatchback and to British-built models the Jazz mini-MPV – but excluding the hybrid version – Civic family hatch and CR-V SUV. It also applies only on orders placed until the end of September.

Complementing the free servicing and roadside assistance is a range of four-year finance options, also to cut new-Honda ownership costs.

Honda UK's marketing chief Martin Moll said: "We have noticed a rising trend of people keeping their cars for longer and this new campaign reflects this change in ownership pattern."

"To drive away a Jazz for only £117 a month without the worry of the cost of servicing and roadside assistance for four years really shows we have our customers' needs and concerns at the front of our minds."

On top of these offers, customers looking to purchase a Civic can snap up a 1.4 Type S, pictured, for the reduced price of £12,995 – saving more than £2,000.

Honda is also currently riding high on glowing customer satisfaction reports that suggest



hassle-free new Honda ownership for those first four years.

The 2011 update on the respected JD Power Vehicle Ownership Satisfaction Study showed Honda retaining the number two spot in the manufacturer league table, with the Jazz celebrating its eighth consecutive win in the Supermini class.

For the second year running, the Accord was number one in the family car category, while the Civic and CR-V were ranked second in their respective classes.



1M-arvellous new coupé

BMW'S 1 Series M Coupé performance flagship has been eagerly awaited.

That it's a good bit cheaper than a current M3 will be a bonus for many, especially when the 1M shares a lot of M3 mechanicals.

It also shares the 3.0-litre, six-cylinder petrol motor of the relatively humble 135i, but twin turbochargers enable it to generate 340bhp.

It also looks the part; with a shortened M3 chassis it still has its big brother's wide track, and in many people's eyes probably comes closer to the image of the fondly-remembered E30 M3 of the late 1980s.

A legendary car to drive for that time, the £40,020 1M will now stake a claim of its own among today's enthusiasts.

Unlike some previous 'M' stars, it also comes packed with kit: airbags, electronic stability control, climate control, leather, cruise control and premium sound system.

The steering is weighty but direct, never failing to communicate the road conditions,

while the stubby manual gearlever slots securely no matter how fast you shift.

Perhaps best of all for a performance car with a short wheelbase and wide track, the ride is more forgiving than you could hope for even when accounting for the car's super-low profile tyres wrapped around smart alloys.

The 1M's engine delivers a deep-chested rasp that rises to a rich baritone wail when the six-pot motor is fully extended – it will hit 62mph in 4.9 seconds. It's even better from the outside, thanks in part to the car's quad tailpipes.

You'll need to get in fast, though, because the full UK allocation currently stands at just 450 cars.

A tragedy when BMW has hit the jackpot with the right blend of mechanical components and emotional experiences.

There's nothing basic about the 1M, but it will serve up simple thrills for keen, experienced drivers all day long.

And it doesn't get any better than that.

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Fuel consumption figures for the Civic 1.4 i-VTEC Type S Manual in mpg (l/100km): Urban 38.7 (7.3), Extra Urban 56.5 (5.0), Combined 47.9 (5.9). CO2 emissions: 135 g/km. Model shown is Civic 1.4 Type S Manual in non-metallic Milano Red at £12,995. Offers (excluding price point) valid on new retail Civic petrol (excluding Civic Ti) ordered from 1 July to 30 September 2011 and registered on or before 31 December 2011. Offers applicable at participating Dealers and are at the Promoter's absolute discretion. Subject to model, colour and stock availability. Honda Hire Purchase (HP): Indemnities may be required in certain circumstances. Finance is only available to persons aged 18 or over, subject to status. All figures are correct at time of publication but may be subject to change. Promoter is Honda (UK), 470 London Road, Slough, Berkshire SL3 8QY. Servicing: Four years complimentary servicing or 50,000 miles, whichever comes first, and includes a maximum of four services. Complimentary servicing covers the manufacturer's scheduled servicing only. Roadside Assistance: Covers the vehicle and authorised drivers for four years emergency breakdown, subject to the vehicle being maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's servicing schedule. Ref: 47113

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2010(60)	VAUXHALL ZAFIRA ELITE CDTI TURBO MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 3000 miles.....	£15,995
2010(60)	VAUXHALL MERIVA SE CDTI TD MPV AUTO, GREY, 5000 miles.....	£15,995
2010(60)	MINI COOPER MINI COOPER 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 1700 miles.....	£14,995
2010(10)	VAUXHALL ASTRA ELITE 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 900 miles.....	£14,995
2011(11)	VAUXHALL ASTRA SRI 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 350 miles.....	£14,995
2010(60)	VAUXHALL ASTRA SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 2000 miles.....	£13,995
2011(11)	VAUXHALL CORSA SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 500 miles.....	£12,995
2010(60)	NISSAN NOTE TEKNA MPV AUTO, INFERNO RED, 2000 miles.....	£11,995
2010(60)	NISSAN CUBE KAIZEN 5DR HATCH AUTO, WHITE, 3000 miles.....	£11,995
2010(60)	FORD FIESTA TITANIUM 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 2000 miles.....	£11,995
2011(60)	NISSAN NOTE N-TEC MPV AUTO, CHAMPAGNE, 3000 miles.....	£11,495
2011(11)	NISSAN MICRA ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 2000 miles.....	£10,995
2010(60)	FORD FUSION TITANIUM 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 3000 miles.....	£10,995
2011(60)	VAUXHALL AGILA SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 650 miles.....	£10,995
2010(10)	RENAULT GRAND MODUS DYNAMIQUE VVT 5DR HATCH AUTO, OTTOMON BLUE, 1000 miles.....	£9,995
2010(10)	FIAT PUNTO EVO DYNAMIC DUALOGIC 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 500 miles.....	£9,495
2010(10)	HYUNDAI I10 COMFORT 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 900 miles.....	£7,995
2010(10)	KIA PICANTO STRIKE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 3000 miles.....	£7,995

CONVERTIBLES CABRIOLETS COUPES

2009(59)	BMW 3 SERIES 320i SE COUPE AUTO, BRONZE, 4000 miles.....	£19,995
2009(59)	RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE COUPE AUTO, RUBY RED, 8000 miles.....	£11,995
2008(08)	PEUGEOT 307 SPORT CONVERTIBLE AUTO, RED, 18000 miles.....	£10,995
2008(08)	RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLACK, 6000 miles.....	£9,995
2008(08)	NISSAN MICRA ACENTA CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 4000 miles.....	£8,995
2008(08)	NISSAN MICRA TEKNA CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, CAFE LATTE, 14000 miles.....	£8,995
2008(08)	NISSAN MICRA TEKNA CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, EMOTION RED, 7000 miles.....	£8,995
2006(56)	RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 14000 miles.....	£8,995
2006(06)	RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 21000 miles.....	£7,995

NEW FIESTA

2011(11)	FORD FIESTA 1-4 TITANIUM 5DR HATCH AUTO, MIDNIGHT SKY, 500 miles.....	£12,995
2010(60)	FORD FIESTA TITANIUM 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 2000 miles.....	£11,995
2009(09)	FORD FIESTA ZETEC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 3000 miles.....	£9,995
2009(58)	FORD FIESTA STYLE PLUS 3DR HATCH AUTO, MOONDUST SILVER, 3000 miles.....	£8,995

FOCUS HATCH & SALOON

2008(08)	FORD FOCUS ZETEC 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 miles.....	£8,995
2008(08)	FORD FOCUS TITANIUM 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 11000 miles.....	£8,995
2008(58)	FORD FOCUS STYLE 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 11000 miles.....	£8,495
2008(08)	FORD FOCUS STYLE 5DR HATCH AUTO, VISION BLUE, 8000 miles.....	£7,995
2009(58)	FORD FOCUS ZETEC 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 3000 miles.....	£7,995
2008(08)	FORD FOCUS STYLE 5DR HATCH AUTO, SEA GREY, 16000 miles.....	£7,995
2008(57)	FORD FOCUS STYLE 5DR HATCH AUTO, SEA GREY, 7000 miles.....	£7,495
2005(54)	FORD FOCUS ZETEC 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 29000 miles.....	£4,995
2004(54)	FORD FOCUS ZETEC 3DR HATCH AUTO, MACHINE SILVER, 11000 miles.....	£4,495

FOCUS ESTATES

2008(08)	FORD FOCUS ZETEC ESTATE AUTO, MOONDUST SILVER, 5000 miles.....	£8,995
2008(08)	FORD FOCUS STYLE ESTATE AUTO, RED, 11000 miles.....	£7,995

RENAULT SCENIC

2009(59)	RENAULT GRAND SCENIC DYNAMIQUE DCI FAP TURBO MPV AUTO, BLUE, 6000 miles.....	£14,995
2008(08)	RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles.....	£7,495
2007(07)	RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, GREY, 26000 miles.....	£6,995

RENAULT

2010(59)	RENAULT SCENIC EXPRESSION VVT MPV AUTO, CHAMPAGNE, 12000 miles.....	£11,995
2009(59)	RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE COUPE AUTO, RUBY RED, 8000 miles.....	£11,995
2008(08)	RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLACK, 6000 miles.....	£9,995
2010(10)	RENAULT GRAND MODUS DYNAMIQUE VVT 5DR HATCH AUTO, OTTOMON BLUE, 1000 miles.....	£9,995
2006(56)	RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 14000 miles.....	£8,995
2006(06)	RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 21000 miles.....	£7,995
2008(58)	RENAULT KANGOO AUTHENTIQUE 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 300 miles.....	£7,995
2008(08)	RENAULT GRAND SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 136 MPV AUTO, GREEN, 15000 miles.....	£7,995
2008(58)	RENAULT KANGOO EXPRESSION 16V MPV AUTO, GREY, 1500 miles.....	£7,495
2008(57)	RENAULT MODUS DYNAMIQUE S VVT 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 miles.....	£6,495
2001(Y)	RENAULT SCENIC EXPRESSION+ 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, CHAMPAGNE, 30000 miles.....	£3,695

CHEVROLET

2009(09)	CHEVROLET AVEO LT 5DR HATCH AUTO, POLY SILVER, 7000 miles.....	£6,995
2009(58)	CHEVROLET LACETTI SX ESTATE AUTO, BLACK, 9000 miles.....	£6,995
2008(08)	CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 6000 miles.....	£5,995
2009(59)	CHEVROLET MATIZ SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, ORANGE, 500 miles.....	£5,995
2009(59)	CHEVROLET MATIZ SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 4000 miles.....	£5,995
2008(08)	CHEVROLET KALOS SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, SPORTS BLUE, 18000 miles.....	£5,495
2006(56)	CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 15000 miles.....	£4,995
2008(08)	CHEVROLET MATIZ SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 18000 miles.....	£4,995

HYUNDAI

2011(11)	HYUNDAI I20 COMFORT 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 100 miles.....	£10,995
2008(08)	HYUNDAI COUPE SIII COUPE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 4000 miles.....	£9,995
2010(10)	HYUNDAI I10 COMFORT 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 900 miles.....	£7,995
2008(58)	HYUNDAI GETZ GSI 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 10000 miles.....	£6,995
2008(08)	HYUNDAI MATRIX GSI MPV AUTO, BLUE, 2000 miles.....	£6,495
2008(08)	HYUNDAI MATRIX GSI MPV AUTO, WINE RED, 13000 miles.....	£5,995
2008(08)	HYUNDAI MATRIX GSI MPV AUTO, WINE RED, 7000 miles.....	£5,995
2008(08)	HYUNDAI AMICA CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 9000 miles.....	£5,995
2007(07)	HYUNDAI GETZ CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, SEASIDE BLUE, 19000 miles.....	£5,495
2008(57)	HYUNDAI MATRIX GSI MPV AUTO, BLUE, 27000 miles.....	£4,995
2006(56)	HYUNDAI AMICA CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 13000 miles.....	£4,295

KIA

2010(10)	KIA PICANTO STRIKE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 3000 miles.....	£7,995
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2008(08)	KIA RIO GS 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 13000 miles.....	£6,495
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DAIHATSU

2008(08)	DAIHATSU MATERIA 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 12000 miles.....	£6,995
2008(08)	DAIHATSU SIRION SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles.....	£6,995
2008(08)	DAIHATSU SIRION SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 13000 miles.....	£6,995
2007(57)	DAIHATSU SIRION SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 miles.....	£6,495
2007(07)	DAIHATSU SIRION SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 16000 miles.....	£5,995
2007(07)	DAIHATSU SIRION 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 20000 miles.....	£5,995

BMW

2009(59)	BMW 3 SERIES 320i SE COUPE AUTO, BRONZE, 4000 miles.....	£19,995
2003(52)	BMW 3 SERIES 316Ti SE 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 50000 miles.....	£4,995

FIAT

2010(10)	FIAT PUNTO EVO DYNAMIC DUALOGIC 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 500 miles.....	£9,495
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FUSION

2010(60)	FORD FUSION TITANIUM 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 3000 miles.....	£10,995
2010(10)	FORD FUSION ZETEC 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1800 miles.....	£9,995
2008(08)	FORD FUSION FUSION + 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 13000 miles.....	£7,995
2008(08)	FORD FUSION FUSION + 5DR HATCH AUTO, SEA GREY, 3000 miles.....	£7,995
2009(09)	FORD FUSION FUSION + 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 16000 miles.....	£7,495
2009(09)	FORD FUSION ZETEC CLIMATE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 11000 miles.....	£6,995
2009(09)	FORD FUSION FUSION + 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 8000 miles.....	£6,995
2008(08)	FORD FUSION ZETEC CLIMATE 5DR HATCH AUTO, OCEAN BLUE, 20000 miles.....	£5,995

CITROEN

2009(59)	CITROEN C3 EXCLUSIVE 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 400 miles.....	£8,995
2008(58)	CITROEN C3 EXCLUSIVE 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 10000 miles.....	£7,995
2007(07)	CITROEN XSARA PICASSO VTX 16V ESTATE AUTO, WICKED RED, 13000 miles.....	£5,995
2006(06)	CITROEN XSARA PICASSO DESIRE 16V ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 miles.....	£4,995

CORSA

2011(11)	VAUXHALL CORSA SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 500 miles.....	£12,995
2010(1)	VAUXHALL CORSA SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 9000 miles.....	£9,995
2010(10)	VAUXHALL CORSA EXCLUSIV 5DR HATCH AUTO, SILVER LIGHTNING , 2000 miles.....	£8,995
2008(58)	VAUXHALL CORSA DESIGN 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 11000 miles.....	£7,995
2009(09)	VAUXHALL CORSA DESIGN 16V TWINPORT 3DR HATCH AUTO, GOLD, 12000 miles.....	£7,495
2008(08)	VAUXHALL CORSA SXI AC 16V 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 12000 miles.....	£6,995
2008(08)	VAUXHALL CORSA SXI AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 15000 miles.....	£6,995
2008(08)	VAUXHALL CORSA SXI AC 16V 3DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 14000 miles.....	£6,995
2008(08)	VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 7000 miles.....	£6,995
2008(08)	VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, GOLD, 9000 miles.....	£6,995
2008(08)	VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 3DR HATCH AUTO, METRO BLUE, 8000 miles.....	£6,495
2007(07)	VAUXHALL CORSA DESIGN 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 39000 miles.....	£5,995
2005(05)	VAUXHALL CORSA DESIGN 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 25000 miles.....	£4,995

MAZDA

2008(08)	MAZDA 5 5 TS2 MPV AUTO, GOLD, 18000 miles.....	£9,995
2008(58)	MAZDA 3 3 TAKARA 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 5000 miles.....	£9,995
2008(08)	MAZDA 3 3 TS2 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 17000 miles.....	£8,995
2007(56)	MAZDA 2 2 S 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 17000 miles.....	£5,495
2006(56)	MAZDA 2 2 S 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 22000 miles.....	£4,995

SUZUKI

2009(59)	SUZUKI SWIFT GLX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles.....	£8,995
2007(57)	SUZUKI SX4 GLX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 21000 miles.....	£7,495
2009(59)	SUZUKI ALTO S24 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles.....	£6,995

TOYOTA

2010(10)	TOYOTA VERSO TR VALVEMATIC MPV AUTO, GREY, 5000 miles.....	£14,995
2006(56)	TOYOTA RAV-4 XT4 VVT-I ESTATE AUTO 4x4, BLACK, 35000 miles.....	£12,995
2010(60)	TOYOTA YARIS TR VVT-I MM 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 2000 miles.....	£10,995
2010(10)	TOYOTA AYGO BLUE VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, CARIBBEAN BLUE, 6000 miles.....	£7,995
2005(05)	TOYOTA YARIS VERSO T3 VVT-I MPV AUTO, CHAMPAGNE, 10000 miles.....	£6,995
2008(08)	TOYOTA YARIS TR MMT 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 33000 miles.....	£6,495
2003(03)	TOYOTA YARIS CDX VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 46000 miles.....	£4,995
2003(03)	TOYOTA YARIS CDX HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 71000 miles.....	£3,995

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2010(10)	NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 8000 miles	£16,995
2010(10)	NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, CAYMAN BLUE, 7000 miles	£16,995
2008(58)	NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, CAFFE LATTE, 12000 miles	£15,495
2008(08)	NISSAN QASHQAI TEKNA 5DR HATCH AUTO, FADED DENIM, 19000 miles	£14,995
2008(08)	NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, CAYMAN BLUE, 10000 miles	£13,995
2010(60)	NISSAN CUBE KAIZEN 5DR HATCH AUTO, WHITE, 3000 miles	£11,995
2010(60)	NISSAN NOTE TEKNA MPV AUTO, INFERNO RED, 2000 miles	£11,995
2011(60)	NISSAN NOTE N-TEC MPV AUTO, CHAMPAGNE, 3000 miles	£11,495
2010(10)	NISSAN MICRA N-TEC 5DR HATCH AUTO, CHAMPAGNE, 9000 miles	£9,995
2010(59)	NISSAN NOTE N-TEC MPV AUTO, BLADE SILVER, 5000 miles	£9,995
2008(59)	NISSAN MICRA ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 8000 miles	£8,995
2008(08)	NISSAN MICRA ACENTA CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 4000 miles	£8,995
2008(08)	NISSAN MICRA TEKNA CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, CAFE LATTE, 14000 miles	£8,995
2009(09)	NISSAN MICRA ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 13000 miles	£8,495
2009(58)	NISSAN MICRA ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, CAFFE LATTE, 7000 miles	£7,995
2008(08)	NISSAN NOTE TEKNA MPV AUTO, CAYMAN BLUE, 3000 miles	£7,495
2008(08)	NISSAN NOTE TEKNA MPV AUTO, BLUE, 14000 miles	£6,995
2008(08)	NISSAN MICRA ACENTA PLUS 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 19000 miles	£6,995
2008(08)	NISSAN NOTE TEKNA MPV AUTO, EMOTION RED, 11000 miles	£6,995
2008(08)	NISSAN NOTE TEKNA MPV AUTO, CHAMPAGNE, 11000 miles	£6,995
2007(57)	NISSAN MICRA ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 15000 miles	£6,995
2007(57)	NISSAN MICRA SPIRITA 3DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 18000 miles	£6,995
2007(57)	NISSAN MICRA ACENTA 3DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 3000 miles	£6,995
2008(57)	NISSAN MICRA ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 15000 miles	£6,995
2008(08)	NISSAN NOTE ACENTA MPV AUTO, ORANGE, 21000 miles	£6,495
2006(56)	NISSAN NOTE SE MPV AUTO, ORANGE, 21000 miles	£5,995
2006(56)	NISSAN MICRA INITIA 3DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 5000 miles	£5,995
2005(05)	NISSAN MICRA S 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 5000 miles	£4,995
2004(54)	NISSAN ALMERA TINO S 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 13000 miles	£4,995
2005(05)	NISSAN ALMERA SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 15000 miles	£4,995
2005(54)	NISSAN ALMERA SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, CAFE LATTE, 9000 miles	£4,995
2005(55)	NISSAN ALMERA SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 39000 miles	£4,995
2005(05)	NISSAN ALMERA S 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 11000 miles	£4,995
2005(05)	NISSAN MICRA S 3DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 6000 miles	£4,995
2005(05)	NISSAN ALMERA SE 3DR HATCH AUTO, MERLOT RED, 1800 miles	£4,995
2004(54)	NISSAN MICRA SE 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 32000 miles	£4,695

ASTRA HATCHBACKS

2009(59)	VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 8000 miles	£9,995
2008(58)	VAUXHALL ASTRA ELITE 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, PANACOTTA, 15000 miles	£9,995
2009(59)	VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 3DR HATCH AUTO, TECHNICAL GREY, 5000 miles	£9,495
2010(59)	VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 3DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 12000 miles	£9,495
2009(59)	VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 2000 miles	£8,995
2009(09)	VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, SILVER LIGHTNING, 14000 miles	£8,995
2008(58)	VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 3000 miles	£8,495
2007(57)	VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, TURQUOISE, 20000 miles	£6,995
2004(54)	VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 4000 miles	£6,495
2007(57)	VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 17000 miles	£5,995
2008(57)	VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, TURQUOISE, 16000 miles	£5,995

NEW MODEL ASTRA

2010(10)	VAUXHALL ASTRA ELITE 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 900 miles	£14,995
2010(60)	VAUXHALL ASTRA SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 2000 miles	£13,995
2010(10)	VAUXHALL ASTRA EXCLUSIV 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 7000 miles	£10,995

ASTRA ESTATES

2010(10)	VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 140 ESTATE ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 3000 miles	£9,995
2008(08)	VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 140 ESTATE AUTO, PANACOTTA, 7000 miles	£6,995
2008(58)	VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 140 ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 8000 miles	£6,995
2008(08)	VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 140 ESTATE AUTO, BLUE, 1000 miles	£6,495
2006(56)	VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V ESTATE AUTO, PANACOTTA, 19000 miles	£5,995

ZAFIRA MERIVA & AGILA

2010(10)	VAUXHALL MERIVA DESIGN 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles	£9,995
2008(08)	VAUXHALL ZAFIRA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, SILVER LIGHTNING, 9000 miles	£8,995
2008(08)	VAUXHALL ZAFIRA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, PANACOTTA, 13000 miles	£8,995
2008(08)	VAUXHALL ZAFIRA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 15000 miles	£8,995
2009(59)	VAUXHALL MERIVA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, GOLD, 3000 miles	£8,995
2008(08)	VAUXHALL ZAFIRA CLUB 16V MPV AUTO, ULTRA BLUE, 12000 miles	£8,995
2008(08)	VAUXHALL ZAFIRA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 17000 miles	£8,495
2008(08)	VAUXHALL MERIVA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 6000 miles	£6,995
2005(05)	VAUXHALL ZAFIRA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 13000 miles	£5,495

PEUGEOT

2010(10)	PEUGEOT 207 SPORT 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 7000 miles	£10,995
2010(10)	PEUGEOT 308 S 5DR HATCH AUTO, IRON GREY, 2000 miles	£9,995
2008(08)	PEUGEOT 207 SE PREMIUM 5DR HATCH AUTO, CHAMPAGNE, 12000 miles	£8,995
2008(08)	PEUGEOT 307 SW SE ESTATE AUTO, DIABLO RED, 6000 miles	£8,995
2008(08)	PEUGEOT 308 S 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 4000 miles	£7,995
2007(57)	PEUGEOT 307 SW SE ESTATE AUTO, RED, 23000 miles	£7,495
2007(57)	PEUGEOT 206 LOOK 3DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 2000 miles	£6,995
2008(08)	PEUGEOT 107 URBAN 2-TRONIC 5DR HATCH AUTO, SILVER, 12000 miles	£5,995

MITSUBISHI

2007(57)	MITSUBISHI LANCER ELEGANCE ESTATE AUTO, GREY, 19000 miles	£6,995
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HONDA

2008(57)	HONDA CR-V I-VTEC ES 5DR HATCH AUTO 4x4, WHISTLER SILVER, 12000 miles	£17,995
2008(57)	HONDA CR-V ES AUTO 5DR AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 17000 miles	£17,995
2007(07)	HONDA CR-V I-VTEC ES 5DR HATCH AUTO 4x4, GREY, 24000 miles	£16,995
2006(06)	HONDA CR-V I-VTEC SE ESTATE AUTO 4x4, BLACK, 26000 miles	£11,995
2009(09)	HONDA JAZZ DSI SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 3000 miles	£9,995
2008(58)	HONDA JAZZ DSI SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 9000 miles	£9,495
2005(55)	HONDA JAZZ DSI SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 48000 miles	£5,995

MERCEDES

2008(58)	MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A170 AVANTGARDE SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 16000 miles	£13,995
2007(57)	MERCEDES-BENZ C CLASS C180K AVANTGARDE SE SALOON AUTO, CUBANITE SILVER, 23000 miles	£12,995
2009(09)	MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A160 CDI CLASSIC SE 5DR TD HATCH AUTO, STEPPE BROWN, 13000 miles	£12,995
2007(57)	MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A150 AVANTGARDE SE 3DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 11000 miles	£9,995

VOLKSWAGEN

2008(08)	VOLKSWAGEN GOLF MATCH FSI 115 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 7000 miles	£11,995
2008(08)	VOLKSWAGEN GOLF MATCH FSI 115 5DR HATCH AUTO, DIAMOND BLACK, 11000 miles	£11,995
2008(08)	VOLKSWAGEN GOLF MATCH TDI 105 DSG 5DR TD HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 17000 miles	£11,995
2008(08)	VOLKSWAGEN GOLF S 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 12000 miles	£10,995
2009(59)	VOLKSWAGEN POLO MATCH (80BHP)5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 1200 miles	£9,995
2009(59)	VOLKSWAGEN POLO MATCH (80BHP)5DR HATCH AUTO, REFLEX SILVER, 780 miles	£9,995
2009(09)	VOLKSWAGEN POLO MATCH (80BHP)5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 10000 miles	£8,995
2009(09)	VOLKSWAGEN POLO MATCH (80BHP)5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 10000 miles	£8,995
2008(58)	VOLKSWAGEN POLO MATCH 3DR AUTO, BLACK, 12000 miles	£8,995
2008(08)	VOLKSWAGEN POLO MATCH (80BHP)5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 10000 miles	£7,995
2007(57)	VOLKSWAGEN POLO S (80BHP)5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 14000 miles	£6,995
2003(53)	VOLKSWAGEN POLO TWIST 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 32000 miles	£4,495

DIESEL AUTOMATICS

2010(60)	VAUXHALL MERIVA SE CDTI TD MPV AUTO, GREY, 5000 miles	£15,995
2010(60)	VAUXHALL ZAFIRA ELITE CDTI TURBO MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 3000 miles	£15,995
2009(59)	RENAULT GRAND SCENIC DYNAMIQUE DCI FAP TURBO MPV AUTO, BLUE, 6000 miles	£14,995
2009(09)	MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A160 CDI CLASSIC SE 5DR TD HATCH AUTO, STEPPE BROWN, 13000 miles	£12,995
2008(08)	VOLKSWAGEN GOLF MATCH TDI 105 DSG 5DR TD HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 17000 miles	£11,995

MORRIS'S MANUAL CARS

2009(59)	VAUXHALL ASTRA SXI 1.4 16V 3DR, GREY, 18000 miles	£8,495
2005(05)	TOYOTA COROLLA VERSO T2 VT-I MPV, SILVER STEEL, 9000 miles	£6,495
2004(54)	VAUXHALL TIGRA SPORT 16V TWINPORT CABRIO, BLUE, 21000 miles	£5,495
2006(56)	VAUXHALL CORSA DESIGN 16V TWINPORT 3DR HATCH, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 2000 miles	£5,495
2007(07)	KIA PICANTO LS 5DR HATCH, BLUE, 17000 miles	£4,495
2002(52)	VAUXHALL ASTRA LS 5DR HATCH, BLUE, 49000 miles	£2,495

SKODA

2008(58)	SKODA ROOMSTER 2 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles	£7,995
2008(08)	SKODA ROOMSTER 2 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 4000 miles	£7,495

QASHQAI

2010(60)	NISSAN QASHQAI N-TEC PLUS 2 4X4 5DR HATCH AUTO 4x4, BLACK, 200 miles	£22,495
2010(60)	NISSAN QASHQAI TEKNA 5DR HATCH AUTO, NIGHTSHADE, 4000 miles	£19,995
2010(59)	NISSAN QASHQAI TEKNA 5DR HATCH AUTO, NIGHTSHADE, 6000 miles	£17,995
2010(10)	NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 8000 miles	£16,995
2008(58)	NISSAN QASHQAI TEKNA 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 15000 miles	£15,995
2008(08)	NISSAN QASHQAI TEKNA 4WD 5DR HATCH AUTO 4x4, FIRED IRON, 17000 miles	£15,995
2008(58)	NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, CAFFE LATTE, 12000 miles	£15,495
2009(09)	NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 9000 miles	£14,995
2008(08)	NISSAN QASHQAI TEKNA 5DR HATCH AUTO, FADED DENIM, 19000 miles	£14,995
2008(08)	NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, CAYMAN BLUE, 10000 miles	£13,995
2008(08)	NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, FIRED IRON, 13000 miles	£12,495
2008(08)	NISSAN QASHQAI VISIA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 21000 miles	£11,995

MINI

2010(60)	MINI COOPER MINI COOPER 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 1700 miles	£14,995
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FIESTA

2008(08)	FORD FIESTA GHIA 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, AMETHYST, 5000 miles	£7,995
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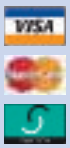
VECTRA ESTATE

2008(08)	VAUXHALL VECTRA DESIGN 16V ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 20000 miles	£7,995
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FIESTA

2008(08)	FORD FIESTA STYLE CLIMATE 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 5000 miles	£6,995
2008(08)	FORD FIESTA STYLE CLIMATE 16V 3DR HATCH AUTO, OCEANBLUE, 18000 miles	£6,495

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05 05	Suzuki Ignis 1.5 VVT-S GLX 4Grip 5 Door Hatchback Red 25,000 Miles.....	£4,995
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10 10	Hyundai i10 1.2 Comfort 5 Door Hatchback Red 10,250 Miles	£5,995
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08 08	Suzuki SX4 1.6 GLX 5 Door Hatchback Black 50,000 Miles	£6,495
10 10	Hyundai i10 1.2 Style 5 Door Hatchback Red 11,650 Miles	£6,495
09 09	Hyundai i30 1.4 Comfort 5 Door Hatchback Silver 17,000 Miles	£6,995
06 06	Suzuki Grand Vitara 1.6 VVT 3 Door Estate Silver 27,500 Miles	£7,750
08 08	Hyundai Coupe 1.6 SIII 3 Door Grey 26,700 Miles	£7,995
10 10	Hyundai i20 1.2 Comfort 5 Door Hatchback Black 10,000 Miles	£7,995
08 08	Hyundai i30 CRDi Comfort 5 Door Hatchback Red 17,500 Miles.....	£7,995
10 10	Hyundai i30 1.4 Classic 5 Door Hatchback Black 13,800 Miles	£7,995
10 60	Hyundai i20 1.2 EDITION 3 Door Hatchback Red 100 Miles	£7,995
10 10	Hyundai i20 1.2 Comfort 5 Door Hatchback Grey 6,000 Miles	£7,995
08 58	Hyundai Coupe 2.0 SIII 3 Door Grey 41,000 Miles	£7,995
10 10	Hyundai i30 1.4 Classic 5 Door Hatchback Silver 15,000 Miles	£7,995
07 07	Suzuki Grand Vitara 1.6 VVT 3 Door Estate Green 35,500 Miles	£8,750
08 08	Hyundai Coupe 2.0 SIII 3 Door Grey 17,800 Miles	£8,795
10 59	Hyundai i20 1.4 Comfort 5 Door Hatchback Silver 5,800 Miles	£8,995
08 08	Suzuki Jimmy 1.3 J1X Plus 3 Door Hatchback Black 16,000 Miles	£8,995
08 08	Suzuki Jimmy 1.3 J1X Plus 3 Door Hatchback Grey 14,300 Miles	£8,995
08 58	Suzuki Jimmy 1.3 J1X Plus 3 Door Hatchback Grey 24,000 Miles	£8,995
09 09	Suzuki Jimmy 1.3 J1X Plus 3 Door Hatchback Black 19,200 Miles	£9,495
10 10	Hyundai i30 1.6 CRDi Comfort 5 Door Hatchback Black 12,150 Miles	£9,795
10 60	Suzuki Swift 1.2 SZ3 5 Door Hatchback Grey 2,900 Miles	£9,995
10 60	Hyundai i20 1.4 CRDi Comfort 5 Door Hatchback Black 100 Miles	£9,995
11 11	Hyundai i20 1.4 CRDi Comfort 5 Door Hatchback Blue 100 Miles	£10,295
11 60	Hyundai i30 1.6 Comfort 5 Door Hatchback Blue 100 Miles	£10,495
11 60	Hyundai i30 1.6 Comfort 5 Door Hatchback Blue 529 Mile	£10,495
11 11	Suzuki SX4 1.6 SZ4 5 Door Hatchback Grey 2,800 Miles	£10,995
11 11	Hyundai ix20 1.4 Active 5 Door MPV Grey 100 Miles	£11,995
10 10	Suzuki Grand Vitara 1.6 SZ4 3 Door Estate Grey 3,500 Miles	£12,995
09 09	Suzuki Grand Vitara 1.9 DDIS 5 Door Estate Grey 9,350 Miles	£13,995
11 11	Hyundai ix20 1.6 Style 5 Door MPV Red 1,000 Miles	£13,995
11 11	Suzuki Grand Vitara 2.4 SZ4 5 Door Estate Black 3,500 Miles.....	£14,995
10 10	Suzuki Grand Vitara 1.9 SZ4 5 Door Estate Silver 6,500 Miles.....	£17,795
11 11	Hyundai ix35 1.7 CRDi Premium 5 Door Estate Black 1,000 Miles	£17,995
11 11	Hyundai ix35 1.7 CRDi Premium + Media Pack 5 Door Estate Silver 100 Miles	£19,495
11 11	Hyundai ix35 Media pack + Individual Pack 5 Door Estate Silver 1,000 Miles	£19,995

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*Models shown: Hyundai i10 Classic 1.2 at £8,995 OTR including a £1,200 customer saving. Hyundai i20 Classic 1.2 3 dr at £8,495 OTR including a £1,250 customer saving. Hyundai i30 Comfort 1.4 hatchback at £9,995 OTR including a £4,300 customer saving. Prices shown include customer saving discounts where applicable against manufacturer's recommended OTR price at the time of publication and include VAT, delivery, vehicle first registration fee, number plates and 12 months' road fund licence. 3 years' or 30,000 miles free servicing, whichever occurs sooner is available to private retail customers only on all Hyundai i20 models registered between 1st July and 30th September 2011. Servicing can be carried out by any Hyundai dealer in accordance with the Manufacturer's servicing schedule for the specific vehicle. All offers and savings are only available to private retail customers on new cars purchased and registered in the UK (excluding Channel Islands or Isle of Man), between 1st July and 30th September 2011, sourced through Hyundai Motor UK Ltd or its authorised dealers. Offers are subject to availability, may be varied or withdrawn at any time and cannot be used in conjunction with any other offers with the exception of the Hyundai i20 3 years' free servicing offer. Warranty terms and exclusions apply. See www.hyundai.co.uk/owners/5YearWarranty or ask your local dealer.

Fuel consumption in MPG (l/100km) for Hyundai range: Urban 25.9 (10.9) - 61.4 (4.6), Extra Urban 39.8 (7.1) - 74.3 (3.8), Combined 33.2 (8.5) - 67.3 (4.2) CO2 Emissions 225 - 99 g/km.

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Models featured: (1) Hyundai i30 Comfort 1.6 CRDi auto in Continental Silver metallic paint with nil advance payment. (2) Hyundai ix20 Active 1.6 auto in Ice Blue metallic paint with £199 advance payment. To qualify for the Motability offer you must be in receipt of the Higher Rate Mobility Component of the Disability Living Allowance or War Pensioners' Mobility Supplement. Offers are subject to acceptance of Motability application. The Motability Contract Hire Scheme is administered by Motability Operations Limited (Registered Company No. 1373876), City Gate House, 22 Southwark Bridge Road, London, SE1 9HB. Full written details, including terms and conditions, of the Motability Scheme are available on request from Motability. Please note 60,000 miles over 3 years are allowed on the Motability Contract Hire Scheme.

Fuel consumption in MPG (l/100km) for Hyundai ix20 range: Urban 34.0 (8.3) - 60.1 (4.7), Extra Urban 51.4 (5.5) - 67.3 (4.2), Combined 43.6 (6.5) - 65.7 (4.3), CO₂ Emissions 154 - 114 g/km. Fuel consumption in MPG (l/100km) for Hyundai i30 Comfort 1.6 CRDi auto: Urban 40.4 (7.0), Extra Urban 56.5 (5.0), Combined 49.6 (5.7), CO₂ Emissions 150 g/km.

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QUOTES OF THE WEEK

"I played with him last week and wound him up about that. I said it depends how physically able you are and I'm obviously a finely tuned athlete that can go on well into my 40s," Lee Westwood reacts to Colin Montgomerie's suggestion that at 38 the world number two only had two or three more years to have a good chance of winning a major.

"I'm finding I'm getting recognised a little bit more, yeah," Rory Mollroy reflects on his change in profile since winning the US Open last month.

"Well, he's a very talented player. I haven't played with him much lately. If you've noticed he's typically in the last groups and I haven't seen him. I've seen him in the car park occasionally," Phil Mickelson on Luke Donald's rise to world number one.

"We didn't walk all the holes because it was really cold and windy. Imagine that," Ben Curtis on his first time back to Royal St George's after winning in 2003.

"Not to my knowledge," R&A chief executive Peter Dawson when asked whether he had a smart phone to run the organisers' tournament app.



DREAM: Qualifier, Francis McGuirk of Prince's

Watson provides a local masterclass

AS if appearing in an Open Championship on your doorstep was not enough of a thrill, Francis McGuirk got to see one of golf's true legends up close in practice this week.

The professional, who represents neighbouring Sandwich club Prince's, got a bonus in practice on Tuesday when he was paired with five-time Open champion Tom Watson.

McGuirk said: "It was an absolute pleasure playing with Tom Watson, just a great man and a true gent."

"I remember watching him and seeing all his records going up, so it was nice to play with him. It was kind of intimidating playing alongside him, but that was half the reason for doing it so I get used to it."

"I did enjoy it, my golf wasn't quite how I would have liked it, but it was great nonetheless."

Tournament organisers keen to keep Sandwich on shortlist

By David Pritchard at Sandwich
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ROYAL St George's will remain on the exclusive list of Open Championship hosts and can look forward to receiving another invitation within the next decade following a successful tournament this week.

Just 14 golf clubs have ever staged the tournament in its 151 years, and only nine venues are on the existing rotation.

As the only host south of Liverpool still visited by The Open, Royal St George's represents an important foothold for tournament organisers the R&A in the region. The Sandwich course has been used five times in the last 30 years and its appeal endures.

Peter Dawson, chief executive of the R&A, was delighted with the preparations and confirmed Royal St George's would stay on the rotation.

He said: "This is very firmly on the list of courses we use for The Open Championship, and if the club will be kind enough to have us again in the future, we would continue to ask to come."

The news will be very welcome, not just for golf fans but the whole county, with this year's Open expected to generate £80 million for the local economy.

The method of inviting clubs to host the championship does not run on a set cycle, so there is no way of calculating accurately when the Open will return to Kent. After a smooth build-up

which saw the players unanimous in their praise of the course, there is a good chance it will be sooner rather than later, though, as the R&A's chairman of the championship committee, Jim McArthur, made clear.

"There's a number of very, very difficult holes, no doubt about that," he said. "It's a true championship test and yes, it would certainly be considered very strongly in the next 10 years."

"It's a wonderful venue from a spectator's standpoint. There are many natural vantage points on the course, so we're hoping to get a good turnout of spectators over the four days of the championship. I'd also like to thank Royal St George's, the captain, the committee and their members for their support. It's been fantastic."

Enthusiasm from the public has helped reinforce the case for The Open returning. Helped by the surge in success by British golfers to the top of the world game, all indications are for Royal St George's to break its attendance record this week.

Dawson said: "In 2003 when we were last here we had a significant upsurge in the crowd size to I think 185,000, which was considerably more than we'd had in the past here."

"And advance ticket sales and early indications on the practice days are ahead of where we were in 2003, so it might be quite busy."

"That would be great."



HAPPY: R&A chief executive Peter Dawson is keen for a return



IMPRESSIVE: Rory Mollroy was unruffled

Mollroy comfortable handling newfound superstar status

RORY Mollroy got a taste of how the rest of his career may turn out to be this week as he made his first competitive appearance since winning the US Open.

The Ulsterman took three weeks off following his eight-shot victory at Congressional, so The Open Championship was the first chance to experience his increased profile on this side of the Atlantic.

Popular before his victory, Mollroy admitted there was a tangible change at Royal St George's.

"I've already noticed over the past three weeks it has been a bit of a life-changing experience, and it's just something I'm going to have to deal with," he said.

"This is what I've always wanted to do. I've always wanted to be a successful golfer and be one of the best players in the world and to win major championships."

"If I have to put up with a few things along the way then I'm fine with that."

Huge galleries followed him throughout the week – noticeably larger than Luke Donald, a world number one playing on home soil – while his press conferences were crammed full of reporters from all over the world.

Faced with the full glare of the media, Mollroy, still only 22, was as impressive behind a desk as he is on the course. Held up as the heir to Tiger Woods' throne as golf's

biggest superstar could have been daunting, but rather than buckle under the weight of expectation, he welcomed it.

"I'm the sort of person that likes to have people watching," he said. "I like to have a little bit of a buzz in the atmosphere around the group and I'll definitely enjoy it."

Even the comparisons to Woods and Jack Nicklaus did not seem to concern him.

Mollroy said: "I have high expectations myself. I want to go out there and try and win golf tournaments, win majors, and become the best player in the world."

"They can say what they want, they can make the comparisons. All I need to do is focus on my game."

– ROYAL ST GEORGE'S, SANDWICH

Opening exchanges provide hope for a thrilling climax

By David Pritchard

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GIVEN the drama which laced the finish to the last Open Championship at Royal St George's, the fear was that this year's tournament would not live up to its predecessor. Yet the cast of characters involved at the end of this week hinted at another fascinating conclusion on Sunday.

Ben Curtis's unlikely victory eight years ago came at the end of a thrilling day's golf and the tens of thousands of spectators heading to Sandwich this weekend will have been hoping for a repeat.

They will get their wish if Thomas Bjorn can carry through his superb start. The 40-year-old only got into the tournament on Monday night as a reserve and despite a total lack of form since taking a two-month break following the death of his father, he shot a five-under-par 65 to storm into the lead on Thursday.

That would be enough for a good story on its own, but the Dane's links to Sandwich run far

deeper. He was poised to win in 2003 before a collapse over the closing holes left Curtis with the Claret Jug. Bjorn had not been back to the course before this week but felt the mental scars healed quicker than had been portrayed.

"I probably didn't dwell on it as much as some people thought," he said. "I think the only really hard time I had with it was when I came back to Royal Troon [for The Open] the year after. I felt that was difficult because it just became so fresh in the mind."

The success of Rory McIlroy, Luke Donald and Lee Westwood made all three big draws this week. The trio could still feature coming down the stretch, but they were all shown up by amateur Tom Lewis early on. The 20-year-old, named after five-time Open champion Tom Watson – one of his playing partners – shot a 65 on Thursday for a share of the lead.

Big galleries followed him on Friday. For his part, Lewis had one eye on a battle with McIlroy.



All pictures: ADY KERRY

DRAMA: Big crowds are expected to watch the closing rounds at Royal St George's, where Thomas Bjorn, left, was among the players to make an impact this week

He said: "[McIlroy] is world number four and he'll definitely get to world number one at some stage in his career. Hopefully, I can get to the same standard and have a few battles with him. That would be a dream."

As the first Open since the death of Seve Ballesteros, a Spanish winner would be hugely popular. Sergio Garcia and Pablo Larrazabal could fit the bill, but Miguel Angel Jimenez was the best placed as this newspaper went to press.

He said: "I think Seve, especially here in this country, they love him. And I think it's time to concentrate on starting moving on, because if not, you cannot play. We are human and it's the moment to say OK, go."

A host of other players, including Darren Clarke and Lucas Glover, will be hoping to figure at the sharp end come Sunday night as Sandwich holds its breath for a fitting finale.

OPEN winners ...and losers

Arriving as an unknown, the 20-year-old's 65 on Thursday catapulted him into a share of the lead.

Impressively held his nerve on Friday to remain under par heading into the weekend. Should win the Silver Medal as the top amateur but may yet have loftier ambitions for the closing rounds.

MARTIN KAYMER

Inspired by Rory McIlroy's US Open victory in the build-up, Kaymer could be a strong contender.

Followed up a 68 with another good showing in round two, he put his name in the frame to become Germany's first Open champion.



TOM LEWIS



MIGUEL ANGEL JIMENEZ

A serial winner on the European Tour, but no major victories.

No bogeys in a 66 on day one was very impressive in the worst of the weather.

Ryder Cup experience means the Spaniard can handle the pressure.



Came into the week under the radar as the attention was focused on higher-ranked British players.

An opening four-over-par round of 74 did little to attract any attention as the Englishman's priorities switched to making the cut.

BEN CURTIS

A repeat of 2003's heroics was always going to be a tall order, but a return to Royal St George's failed to lift the American's patchy form.

A scratchy seven-over-par round on Thursday left the former champion in a major battle just to make the cut.



PAUL CASEY



PADRAIG HARRINGTON

Hopes of a third Open Championship in five years looked a long way off for the Irishman, who opened with a three-over 73.

A 71 in Friday's second round left him with the real possibility of an early flight home.



No excuses as Smith finds it tough at the top



CHALLENGE: Maidstone pro Andy Smith

OPEN qualifier Andy Smith had a special week as part of the field at Royal St George's despite struggling for form and fitness.

The 26-year-old from Maidstone was troubled by an arm injury and also found it difficult to adjust to the pace of the greens at the Sandwich course.

An 11-over-par first round left him on the brink of missing the cut as this newspaper went to press, but he remained upbeat.

He said: "I kept telling myself 'I'm in The Open Championship' – you can't describe it, it means the world. I don't want to stand here and make excuses and say I could have played better if... when there's so many people out there who would give their left arm to be in my position. I'm just happy I've played in The Open."

Sport

For more sports news and pictures go to www.kentsport.co.uk

CRICKET

Farbrace hoping to persuade three new players to sign for Kent next season

EXCLUSIVE by Glenn Pearson
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KENT have begun "serious discussions" with three potential new signings about joining the county next year.

The club wrote to several counties declaring their interest in players out of contract at the end of this season, and have now opened talks with three as the county look to strengthen next summer.

Kent's director of cricket, Paul Farbrace, denied one of those was Nottinghamshire seamer Charlie Shreck, who played for the county on a short-term loan at the beginning of the season, but did say he was hopeful of persuading three new targets to join the club.

"We've had serious discussions with three players, whether we get three will depend on them wanting to come to Kent and whether we can afford to bring people in, but I'm hopeful that numbers are improving all the time," he said.

"We've had decent crowds for Twenty20 and I'm hoping that the club might look favourably in terms of the cricket budget, but that's still to be worked out.

"We wrote to quite a few counties and I've had a few meetings and things are progressing. But I'm no more than hopeful in terms of how much we have budget-wise in bringing people in, if at all, and secondly whether we can sell the club to them.

"Our Twenty20 form has helped and made it easier to convince people to come to Kent and with the new facilities and the ground as it is; that's a massive selling point.

"If I'm able to say to people that I'm

talking to, 'we are keeping our best players' then that helps in attracting people from outside."

The futures of Kent's eight players out of contract this season – Joe Denly, Sam Northeast, Azhar Mahmood, Simon Cook, Robbie Joseph, James Goodman, Adam Riley and Chris Piesley – are back on the agenda after the group stages of the Friends Life t20 ended on Friday.

Discussions will resume with those players next week and Farbrace is keen for a quick resolution.

"We've not done a lot in the last week to 10 days because we wanted to stay focused on the Twenty20, but from Monday it will kick on again and there will be more conversations," he said.

"I'm quite keen that, although I've said there's no rush, we do want the lads sorted as quickly as possible because it helps us in terms of hopefully attracting a few others from outside and keeping our best players.

"If we can get our boys nailed down and sorted it will make it a damn site easier to recruit others as well."

The Kent coach couldn't say with any certainty that all eight would be staying, but did reiterate the point that he doesn't want to see the county lose their top stars.

"We want to keep our best players and add to them," he said. "With our bowling resources, we don't really want to be losing anybody from a bowling point of view. The batters, all four are young Kent lads who we are very keen to keep.

"Riley has done well for us so we obviously want to keep him and we want to keep our bowling resources strong."



Picture: ADY KERRY

BACK ON: Talks with Kent's out-of-contract players, including opening batsman Joe Denly, are set to resume next week

CRICKET



Picture: ADY KERRY

SIDELINED: Kent captain Rob Key is struggling with a wrist injury

Injury forces skipper to miss Dutch trip

A WRIST injury looks set to rule Kent captain Rob Key out of his side's forthcoming games in both the Clydesdale Bank 40 and the LV= County Championship.

The 32-year-old was a major doubt for the club's Friends Life t20 games against Surrey and Essex, played before this newspaper went to press, and is likely to sit out Sunday's CB40 trip to the Netherlands and next week's championship game at Gloucestershire.

His absence will be keenly felt after

the county skipper hit a season's best 162 in Kent's narrow 21-run championship defeat against Surrey at the Oval.

New loan signing David Balcombe will make his CB40 debut in Holland, while Simon Cook should be back in the Kent squad after recovering from a finger injury.

■ **For a match report and reaction from Kent's vital Twenty20 game at Essex on Friday night, visit www.kentsport.co.uk.**

MOTORSPORT

Jackson wary of Plato's credentials in BTCC title race

MAT Jackson insists reigning champion Jason Plato cannot be counted out of the British Touring Car Championship (BTCC) race with the series finely poised at its halfway point.

Sitting second in the drivers' championship after five rounds, Airwaves Racing driver Jackson is 31 points clear of sixth-placed Plato having picked up three race wins already this season.

Jackson's successes have come in the turbo-powered Ford Focus of Airwaves, who represent Wrotham team Motorbase in the BTCC.

Meanwhile, Plato has struggled for form in his normally aspirated Chevrolet, although Jackson says it would be foolish to underestimate either Plato or his team.

"You can't rule Jason out because Chevrolet have a lot of resources," he said. "They've won championships before, they're the world champions and they've been playing a bit of a canny game.

"It is pretty tight up there. It's an interesting year because there's a new engine in there, the NGTC (next generation touring car), and there's been a lot of tweaking with the turbos to get parity.



Picture: NICK DUNGAN

THREAT: Mat Jackson is in the hunt for the drivers' championship but he knows Jason Plato will not give up his title without a fight

"With the turbos, it's a decision everybody could have made, there was nothing stopping any team going with the turbos and embracing the rules and regulations. Some of the guys chose not to, but then they moan the turbo cars are quicker."

Jackson's toughest competitor for the championship still appears to be Honda's Matt Neal, who holds a slender nine-point advantage after 15 races.

The pair, who already have eight race wins and 14 podium finishes between them this season, will resume their duel when the BTCC returns at Norfolk's Snetterton circuit on the weekend of August 7.

Sport

For more sports news and pictures go to www.kentsport.co.uk

GILLINGHAM

No regrets for Birchall as transfer saga ends with dream Gills move

By Steve Tervet

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ADAM Birchall says he will "live and die" by his decision to join Gillingham from Dover Athletic this week after turning down advances from Swindon Town and AFC Wimbledon.

Dover accepted bids from all three clubs for the ex-Arsenal trainee, who bagged 45 goals in all competitions for the Whites last season.

However, despite the chance to hook up with former West Ham talisman Paolo di Canio, now in charge at Swindon, Birchall opted for a move closer to his Maidstone home and a reunion with Gills boss Andy Hessenthaler, with whom he worked at both Barnet and Dover.

Amid widespread rumour and speculation over his preferred destination, the 26-year-old insisted his heart had always been set on a move to Gillingham this summer.

"It's a special feeling," he said. "There's nothing quite like playing in the Football League for the biggest local team around. It's a pleasure to play for them and I'm really excited."

"I'm always going to be a Dover fan, but at the end of the day you've got to do what's right for you as a player."

"You look back on your career and there's no point saying you didn't make the right move, you made the move everyone else wanted you to. What's the point in that? You've got to live and die by your own decisions and I've definitely made the right decision."

Three failed bids by Conference Premier club



Picture: GILLINGHAM FC

EXCITED:

Adam Birchall completed his move to Gills, getting his wish to play in the Football League in the process

Newport County triggered a domino effect in the Birchall transfer tale, which unfolded at pace

Gillingham's first offer was described as a "joke bid" by Dover chairman Jim Parmenter, who subsequently accepted Swindon and Wimbledon's offers.

Birchall spoke to di Canio on the phone and went for a medical at Wimbledon, but after meeting Hessenthaler and Gillingham chairman Paul Scally, his mind was irrevocably made up.

"Don't get me wrong, the other two clubs are

great clubs," he said. "I went to speak to AFC and I spoke to Paolo di Canio on the phone and what they're doing there is great as well. It was really flattering that they came in for me, but once I came to Gills and spoke to the gaffer and the chairman, it ticked all the right boxes for me."

"I owe the gaffer a lot and it's all been worth it because I've got to the club I wanted to go to and I'm really excited about that."

Birchall will compete with Danny Kedwell, Dennis Oli and Stefan Payne for a start up front.

GILLINGHAM

Picture: ADY KERRY



EXIT: Ian Hendon is on his way to West Ham

Hendon leaves Gills to take West Ham post

GILLINGHAM have begun their search for a new assistant manager after Ian Hendon this week left the club to join Sam Allardyce's backroom staff at West Ham United.

Hendon will take on the role of development coach at Upton Park, although so far both clubs remain tight-lipped over the appointment. The delay suggests the Gills are in talks over compensation for the 39-year-old.

After watching his side win 1-0 at Ramsgate in Wednesday night's friendly, Andy Hessenthaler declined to comment on Hendon's situation.

However, Hammers boss Sam Allardyce was known to be looking for a coach to link the club's academy and developing players to the senior squad following Kevin Keen's move to Liverpool.

Hendon controversially joined the Gills last summer. The former Barnet boss had been recommended to Dover Athletic by Hessenthaler when he left for Priestfield. The Whites duly appointed Hendon, but he did not sign his contract before going on holiday, during which time he accepted the job as Hessenthaler's assistant.



EXPERIENCE: Ian Simpemba (top, in blue) and Liam Marum (above, in orange) have both played in Conference Premier before and should strengthen Ebbsfleet United's squad ahead of the new season

EBBSFLEET UNITED

New boys at Fleet add experience for Conference move

EBBSFLEET United newcomers Liam Marum and Ian Simpemba are both hoping their experience of Conference Premier will help the club re-establish itself in the division this season.

The pair became Liam Daish's first summer signings last week and made their Fleet debuts in Monday night's 1-0 friendly win over Canterbury City, with 23-year-old Marum scoring the only goal.

Since leaving Woking in 2009, the striker has experienced a somewhat nomadic career. He was a peripheral figure during his time with Crawley Town but after loan spells with Hayes & Yeading and Forest Green Rovers, he insists he is ready to settle down at Stonebridge Road.

"It's the quickest I've ever settled into a club," he said. "I could have stayed at Forest Green but I knew the gaffer [Daish] was interested because he tried to get me

on loan here last year.

"As every player would, you want to stay at the highest level possible and obviously Ebbsfleet are in Conference Premier now. It's not just that, though, I've heard good things about the gaffer and I'm really happy with my choice."

Simpemba, 28, faced the Fleet in Conference South last season as Havant & Waterlooville's skipper. Released from his contract by the Hawks last week, the former Wycombe, Crawley and Lewes defender was quick to accept Daish's offer of a new deal.

"I made a move down this way, to Kent, and it was always a place I was looking to come," he said. "I admired the boys last year, I thought they were the best side in it, and as soon as I had a chance to do it, I jumped at it."

"I don't think there's much of a difference between this and League Two, so I think we've got to be strong at home."

TRANSFER TALK...

A WEEK dominated by **Adam Birchall's** move to **Gillingham** also yielded activity elsewhere.

Dover will look to striker **Billy Bricknell** for goals after signing him from Chelmsford City.

Harry Harding is back at **Bromley** after being released by Reading, while **Welling** skipper **Jack Parkinson** looks set to join Southend.

Margate accepted an offer from **Maidstone United** for **Shawn Welford**, although the Blues appear no closer to signing **Liam Friend** from **Folkestone Invicta**.

Faversham Town defender **Jack Baldwin** has attracted the attentions of both **Gillingham** and **Hartlepool United**.

Tunbridge Wells have signed strikers **Andy Irvine** and **Nick Nowotny**, defender **Gary Clarke** and midfielder **Joe Risby**.

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